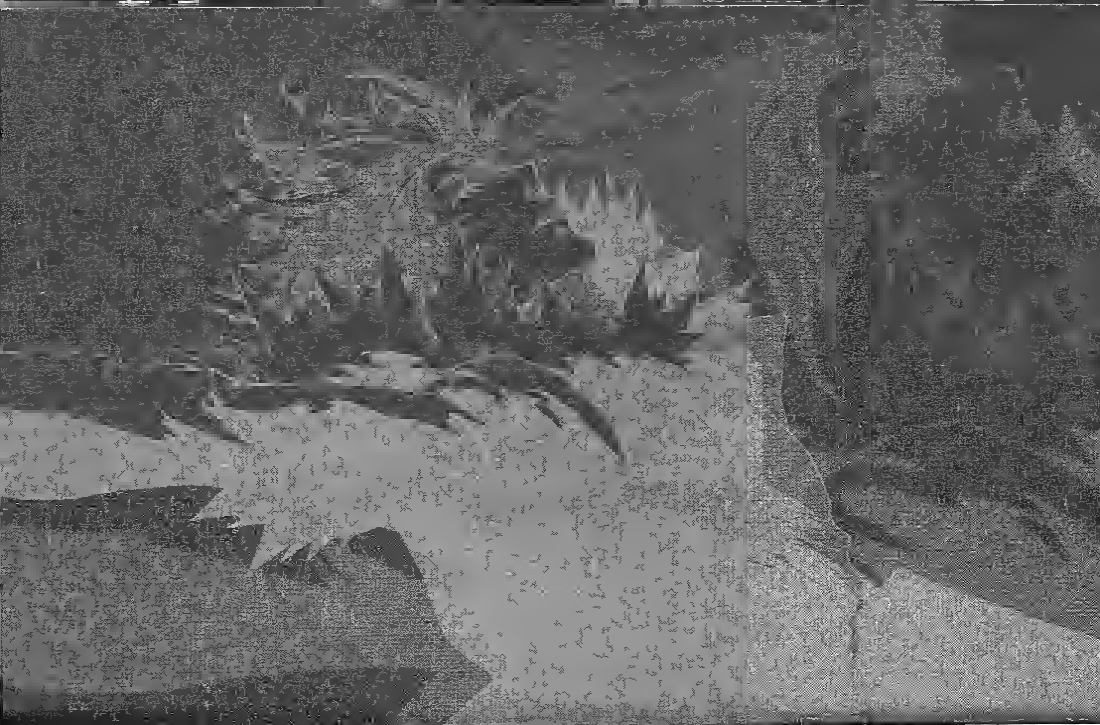
TOKYOPOP
Suguro Chayamachi
Nitro+ CHiRAL
TOGAINU NO CHI
5

Manga
Action
US $10.99
CAN $13.99

After a fierce fight with the crazed Takeru, a confused and exhausted Akira wanders the streets. What causes the Line compatibility disorders, and how might they be related to his blood? And what clandestine knowledge of Nicole Premier's terrifying power does Shiki have locked in his memories? As these weighty questions loom ever larger and the brutal Igura battles intensify, Akira is suddenly abducted by a Line-addled Keisuke, who reveals a horrifying secret of his own as he tortures his one-time friend...



TOGAINU NO CHI™

Volume 5

Suguro Chayamachi
and
Nitro+ CHiRAL

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Togainu no Chi Volume 5

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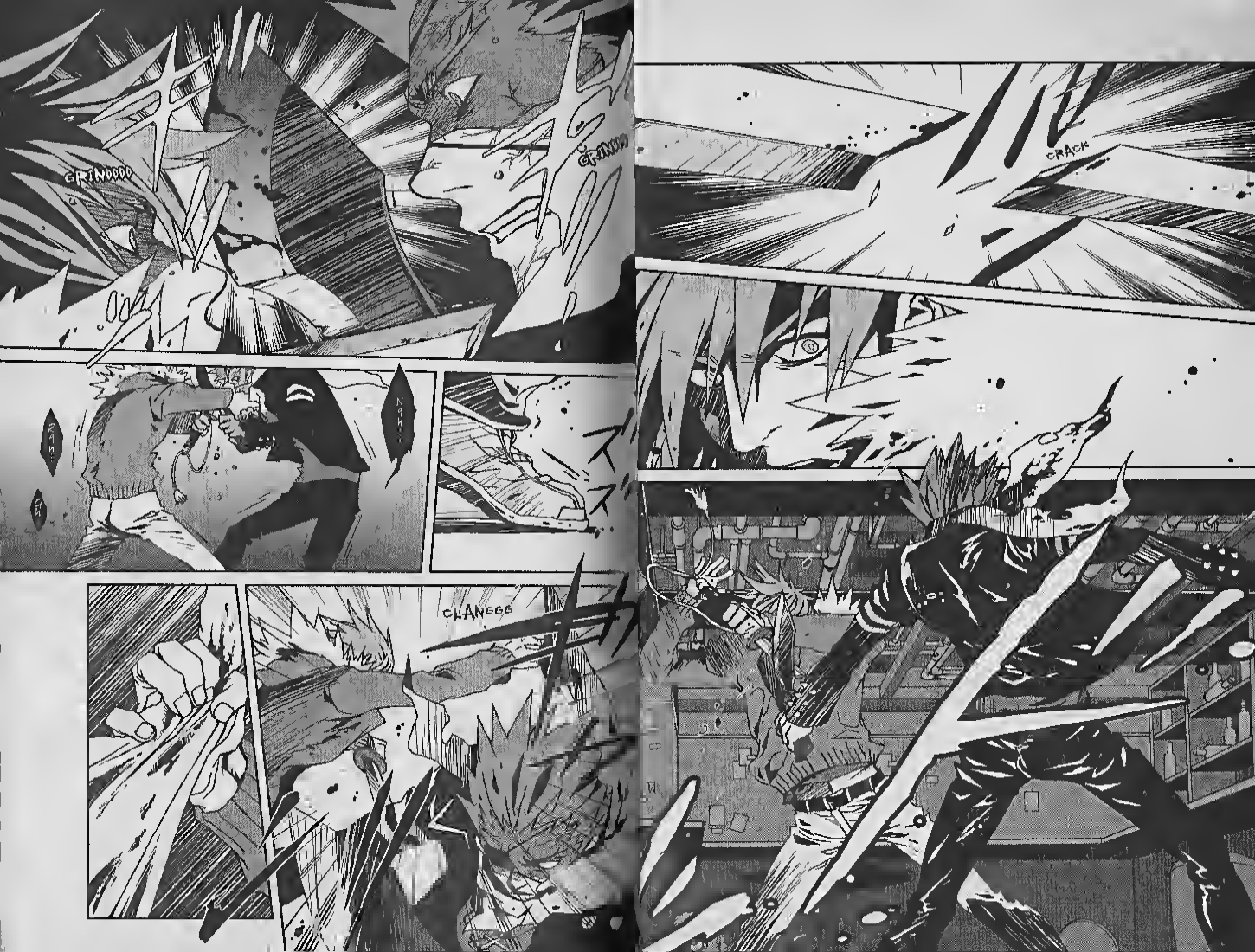
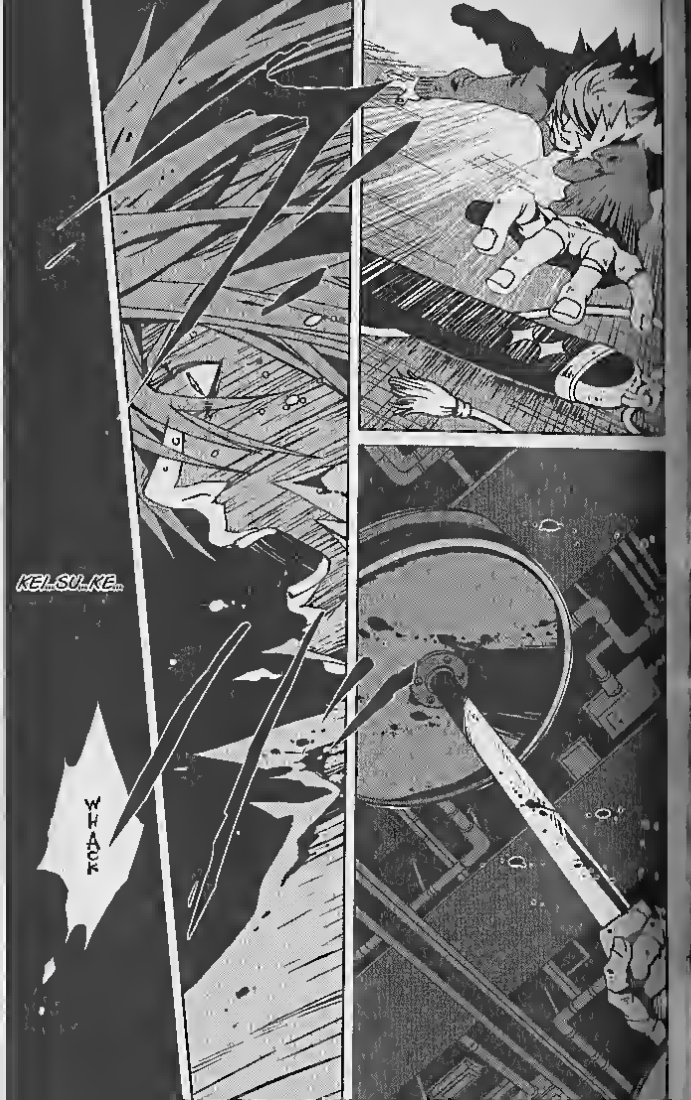

GRINDDD
GRIND
CRACK
CLANGGG

WHY WON'T YOU..
whoosh
WHY WON'T YOU DIE, YOU SON OF A BITCH?!!
CRASH
TOUCH
huff
huff
huff
YOU... BAS- TARD...
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
huff
huff
huff

AAAAAAG
GHH!
CRASHHH
WHACK
OO
Gahhhh!!
YOU'RE PLAYING ME FOR A FOOL, AREN'T YOU?!
Y-YOU... YOU'RE...
...LOOKING DOWN ON ME!!


KEI...SU...KE...
WHACK

YOU'RE AMAZING...AKIRA.
WHAM
NAAH!

STOP GIVING ME THAT LOOK!
DON'T FUCK WITH ME!
HUFF
HUFF
I'M GONNA MURDER YOU!
IS THAT WHAT THIS IS? HUH?!
IS THAT SUPPOSED TO BE PITY?!
WHAT IS THAT?!
UGHH...
AGH... AR...
KK... UHH...
GASP!
FOR SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T USE LINE...
...YOU'VE DONE PRETTY WELL FOR YOURSELF, LOST.
HEH HEH HEH.

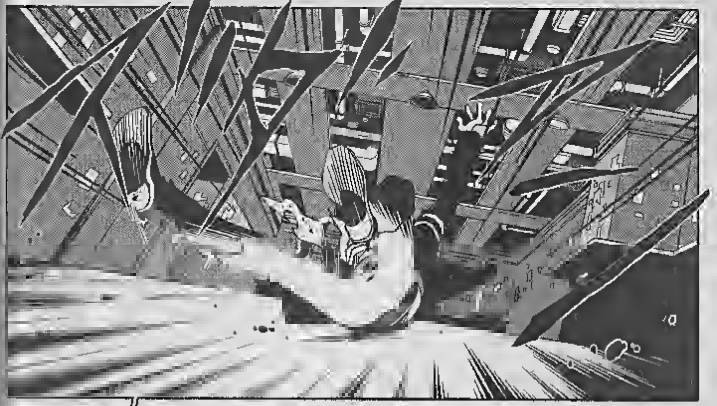
...AH...?
GULP
TCH...
?!
STOP...

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

DO ME A FAVOR AND TELL ME IT HURTS, ALL RIGHT?
C'MON, JUST ONCE... SAY IT.
SO YOU'D RATHER DIE THAN BEG FOR YOUR LIFE, HUH?
I'LL WIPE THAT LOOK OFF YOUR FACE ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.

HA HA HA HA... HA...

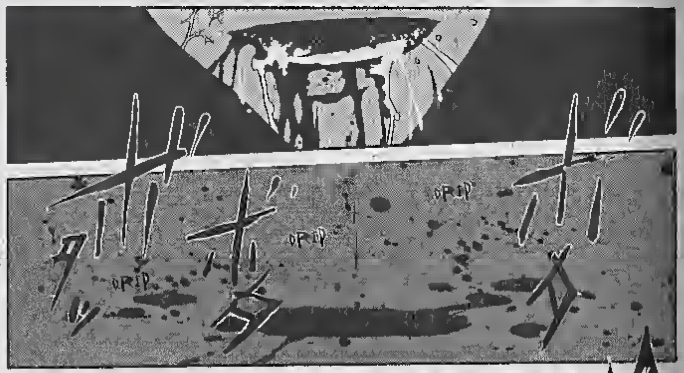
AH HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!!
C'MON, LOST..
WHAT, AREN'T YOU AFRAID OF DYING?
HA HA HA HA HA.. ARE YOU KIDDING ME?



HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

HA HA HA... HA HA HA HA!
Ha ha ha...
Ha ha ha...

HA HA HA HA HA HA... AH HA HA HA HA HA!!
"PLEASE, DON'T KILL ME!"
WHENEVER I'M ABOUT TO KILL SOMEONE, THEY CRY AND BEG FOR THEIR LIVES! "PLEASE, SPARE ME" THEY SAY!
"STOP IT"? IS THAT ALL YOU'RE GONNA SAY? GO AHEAD AND SCREAM, JUST LIKE EVERYONE ELSE! IT'S NOTHING TO BE ASHAMED OF!


DRIP
DRIP
DRIP

CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
SURGE
AGH..!

I WANNA HE..R YOU SCRE..M!
I WANT YOU TO BEG FOR MERCY, LOST! I WANT TO SEE YOU SWIMMING IN A POOL OF YOUR OWN BLOOD!

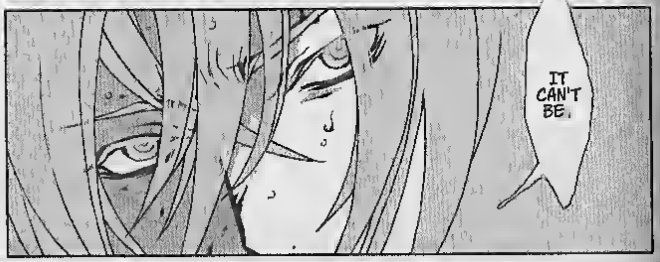
LO-

INCOMPATIBILITY.
WHA...
WHAT THE... HELL...?
HAAA
HUFFFF
HUFFFF
NO... NO, IT CAN'T BE!
WHY...?
AH...
WHY NOW...?!
IT'S...
REJECTING ME...?

HEY...!
GET...
NO! GOD DAMMIT, NO!!!
WHY..? WHY ME..?
GODDAMMITTT!!!
GET BACK HERE!
WHEEZ
PANT

...
LO—
!!
YOSOOOOO

Nnh
INCOMPATIBILITY?
mh
mh
huff
huff
huff



MY...BLOOD?

AS SOON AS THEY LICKED THEM...THEY SUDDENLY WENT INTO AGONY.

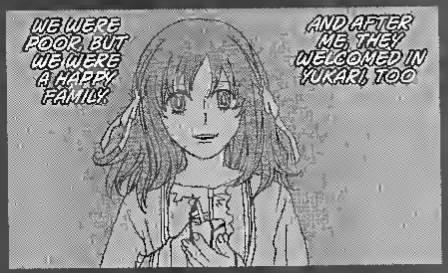
THE KNIFE...

THE TAG...

WHAT TRIGGERS THE INCOMPATIBILITY?

HEY, YOU GOT ANY CIGARETTES?
NO, OF COURSE NOT. THEY DON'T LET YOU SMOKE AT THE CASTLE, HUH?
SHOULD'VE WHEEDLED SOME OUT OF THOSE PUNKS IN THE BLACK SUITS...
Hm?
HOW CONSIDERATE OF YOU
IS THAT A CIGARETTE I SEE?
WHAT-!
OH SHIT

"Vischio Organization Song" (written and composed by Arbitro, from Tog...inu no Chi Variety Voice CD)

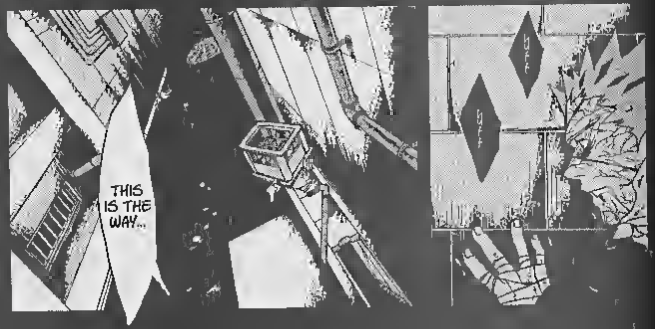


EVEN THOUGH WE WEREN'T RELATED, MY ADOPTED PARENTS TREATED ME WITH MORE LOVE THAN MY BIRTH PARENTS.

BUT IF WE HADN'T BEEN SO IMPOVERISHED, MY MOTHER NEVER WOULD'VE BECOME ADDICTED TO DRUGS.

NATURALLY, MY FATHER BECAME DEPRESSED. ALL HE DID WAS LOOK FOR WORK ALL DAY, COME HOME, AND START THE CYCLE OVER AGAIN

THEY WERE ALIVE, BUT THEY HAD LOST THEIR HUMANITY.

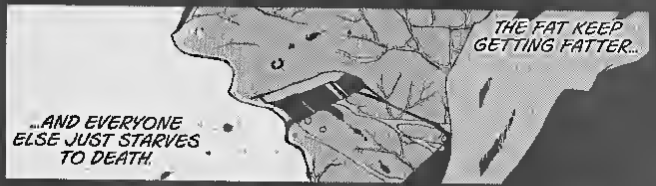


IT ALL COMES DOWN TO...

...MONEY.

MONEY.

M-O-N-E-Y.



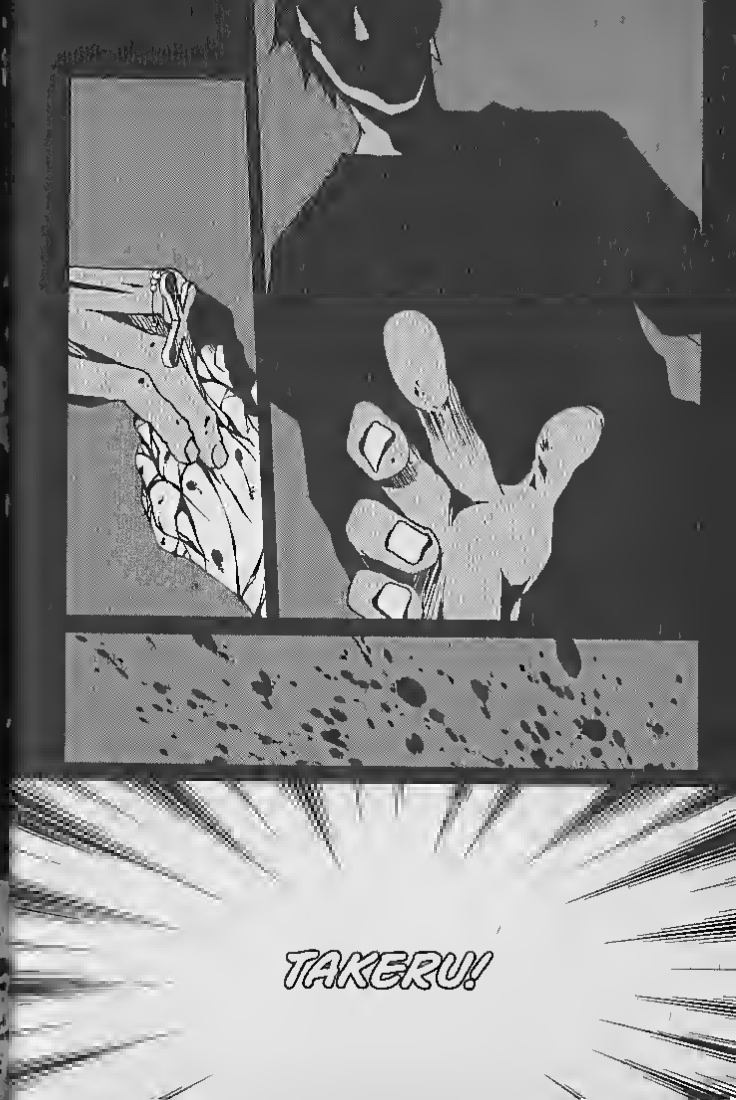
IF THE CFC DOESN'T HAVE MONEY, THEN WE CAN'T RECEIVE ANY AID.

SO THE GOVERNMENT JUST SITS BACK AND WATCHES US DIE

I PROMISE... I'M GONNA BEAT IL RE...
WAIT FOR ME... YUKARI...

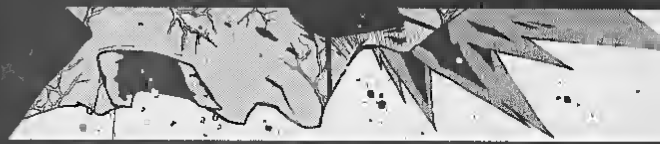
I KNOW YOU'RE CLOSE, LOO-OOST...
I WON'T LET YOU GET AWAY..
I'LL CATCH YOU.. I SWEAR IT..
YOU CAN'T GET AWAY..HA HA... I CAN FOLLOW YOUR SCENT..!
HA HA HA HA... HEH HEH..
I'M GONNA MURDER YOUUUU...!
I'M GONNA KILL YOU!
I'M GONNA MAKE YOU FEEL THE PAIN THAT YOU PUT ME THROUGH!
HCK
HACK
COUGH

MOM! MOM, LOOK!
IT'S TAKERU!
HE CAME HOME!
MOM'S BACK FROM THE HOSPITAL!
LOOK, TAKERU!
DAD'S ALL BETTER, TOO!
SEE? ISN'T IT GREAT, TAKERU?
YUKARI...?


TAKERU!

I-IS THAT TRUE...?
OF COURSE! AND YOU KNOW WHY?
BECAUSE AS LONG AS I HAVE YOU, I DON'T NEED ANYTHING ELSE
I'M SORRY...
BUT YOUR BROTHER
HASN'T DEFEATED IL RE YET
SEE?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU BEAT HIM A LONG TIME AGO!

WHEN DID YOU GET HERE...?
YUKARI...



WHAT DO YOU MEAN, TAKERU?
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN HERE

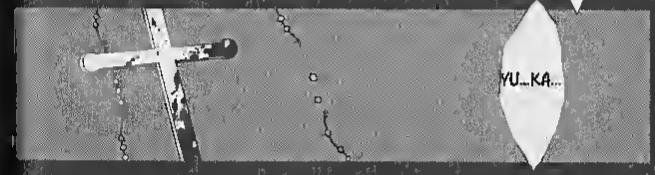
DON'T CRY.

WHAT'S WRONG..?

huff
huff

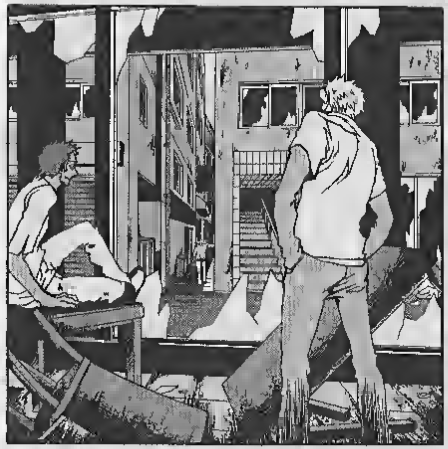
DogTag-22

AS LONG AS YOU'RE HERE WITH ME, TAKERU...
...I'LL BE HAPPY.


YU...KA...

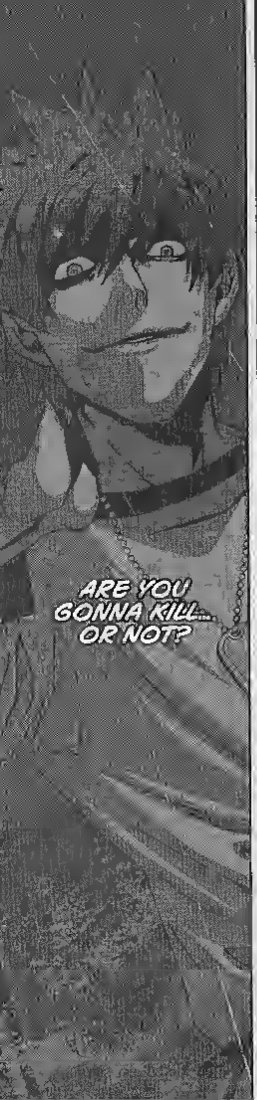
DON'T WORRY...
YOUR BIG BROTHER WILL ALWAYS BE HERE TO PROTECT YOU.
GUMI

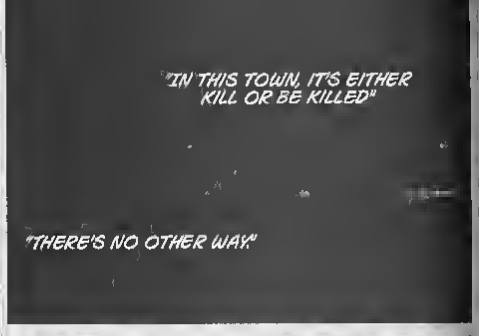
Water
Hah
Ugh
Cough
Clatter
Clatter



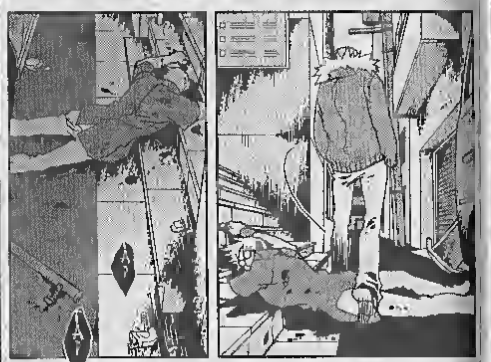
Hah
Wolf
Ha

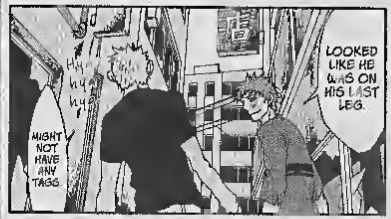
AAUM
AAUM
AAUM
AOUMP
MAYBE HE WENT THAT WAY?
WHERE'D HE GO?
PITTER
PATTER
HUH?


ARE YOU GONNA KILL... OR NOT?


"IN THIS TOWN, IT'S EITHER KILL OR BE KILLED"
"THERE'S NO OTHER WAY."

SO WHAT'S IT GONNA BE?

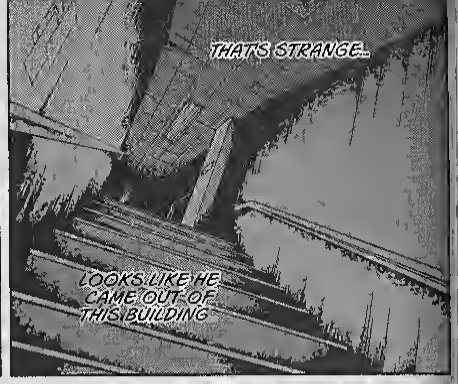



LOOKED LIKE HE WAS ON HIS LAST LEG.
HM HM HM HM
MIGHT NOT HAVE ANY TAGS

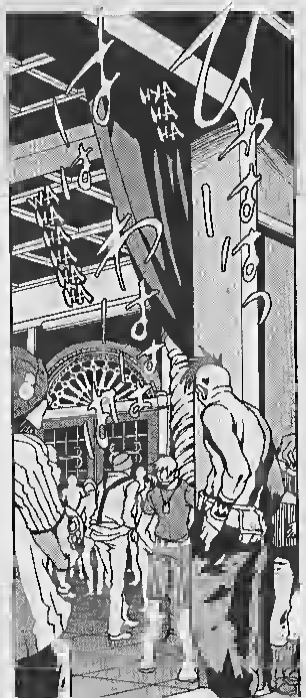
phew

CLAK...
CLAK
CLAK
CLAK
I'M NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE TERRITORY LIKE RINJI...AND IT'S NOT EXACTLY SAFE TO JUST WANDER AROUND TOSHIMA.
ALL OF THE NEUTRAL ZONES WERE DESTROYED... I DON'T HAVE ANYWHERE LEFT TO GO.
I NEED TO FIND HIM, BUT I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TO START.
EVEN IF I DO FIND HIM, I...
...KEISUKE...
CLAK
CLAK
CLAK
コツ...

IS THIS... WHERE HE LIVES?


THAT'S STRANGE...
LOOKS LIKE HE CAME OUT OF THIS BUILDING

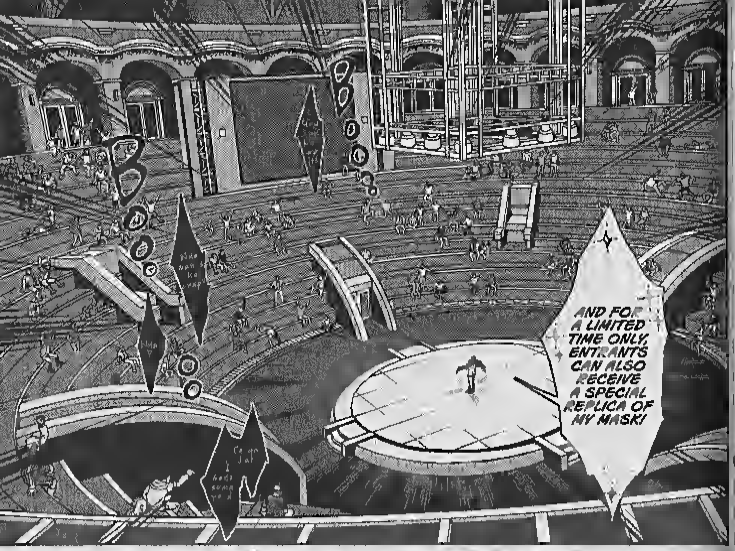
SHIKI!


WA HA HA
WA HA HA HA WA HA HA

CLAK

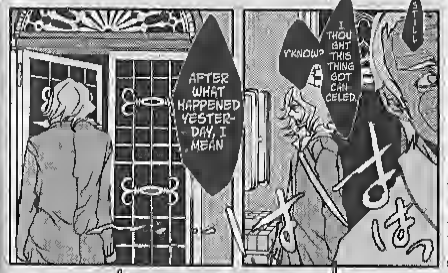
CLAK

CLAK
CLAK

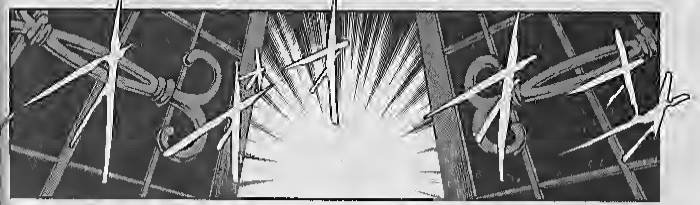

AND FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY, ENTRANTS CAN ALSO RECEIVE A SPECIAL REPLICA OF MY MASK!

HA HA HA HA HA

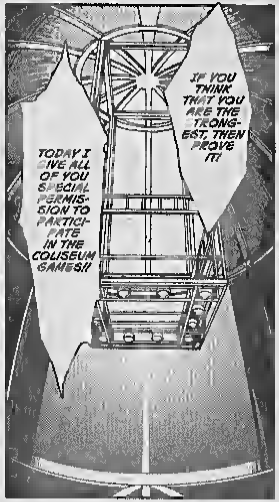
KILL HIM!!
C'MON SOMEBODY FIGHT!
HERE WE GO!
LOOK, IT'S A LINE ADDICT!


AFTER WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY, I MEAN
Y'KNOW?
I THOUGHT THIS THING GOT CANCELED.

I BUST MY ASS TO GET HERE AND THERE'S NO SOS?!
Why na-?
It was bad at-
D-DAMN!



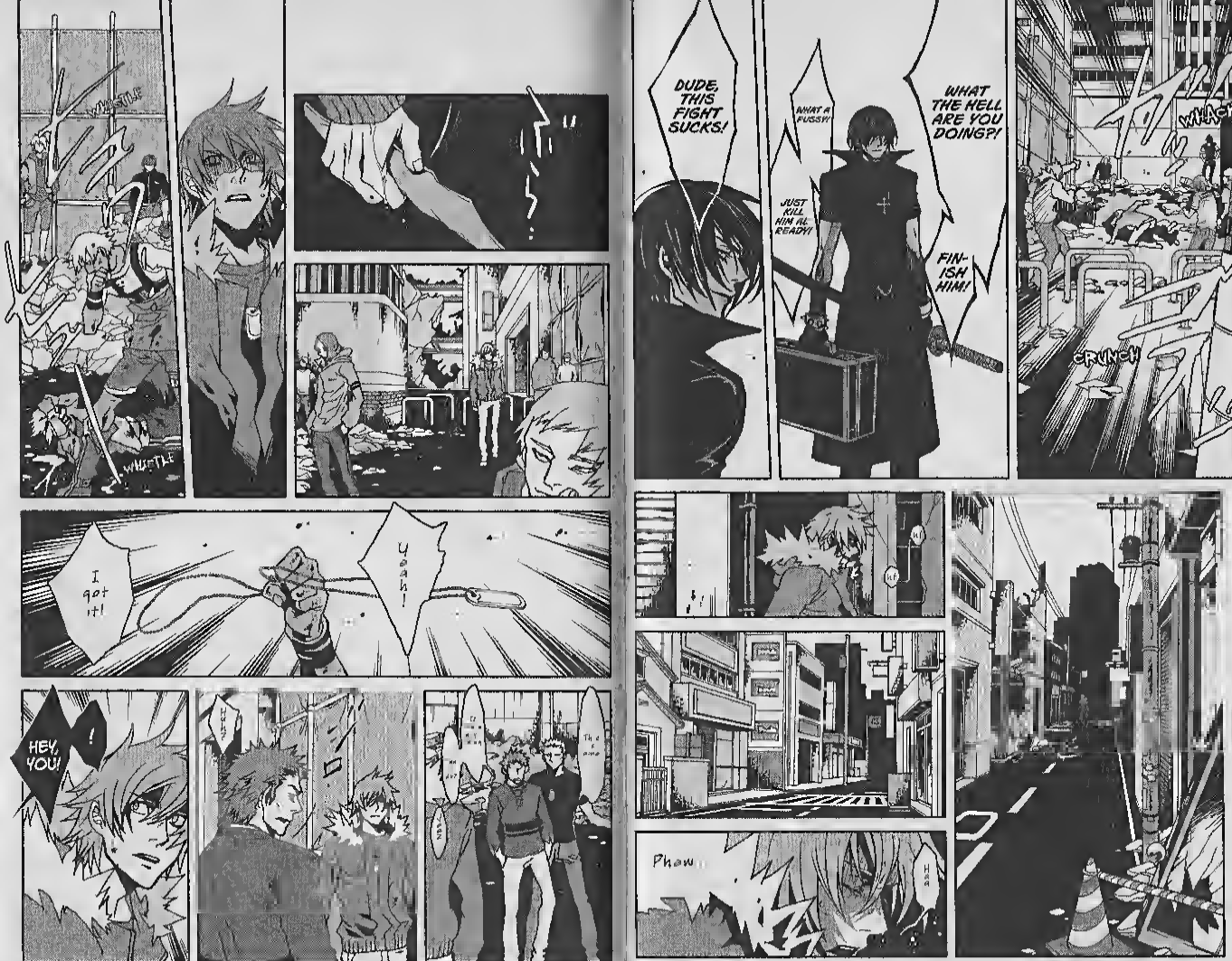
...PLEASE STICK AROUND FOR THE ILLE BATTLE AND THE UNDERCARD FIGHTS!
AND AS ALWAYS...
IF YOU ARE PROUD OF YOUR FIGHTING PROWESS AND SEEK A REWARD...
...THEN TE- FORTH!
YEAHHHH


IF YOU THINK THAT YOU ARE THE STRONGEST, THEN PROVE IT!
TODAY I GIVE ALL OF YOU SPECIAL PERMISSION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COLLOSEUM GAMES!!

OH NO...
CRACK

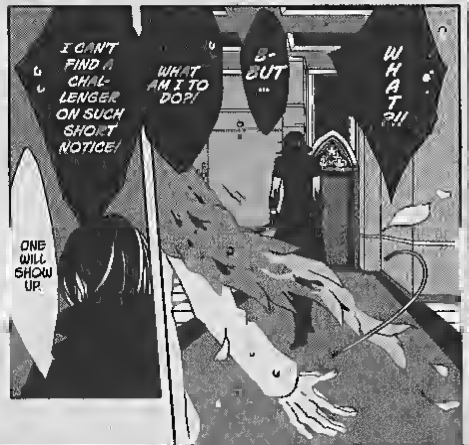
AND ONCE THEY'RE DONE WITH THEM, THEY THROW THEM AWAY.
THEY DOMESTICATE DOGS SO THEY CAN USE THEM.
...HE MUST KNOW SOME-THING.
THE WAY HE WAS TALKING

CLACK
Kill him!
Do it!
Kick his ass!


DUDE, THIS FIGHT SUCKS!
WHAT A FUSSY!
JUST KILL HIM AL READY!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!
FIN-ISH HIM!
WHACK
CRUNCH
WHIPPH
I got it!
Yeah!
HEY, YOU!
Phew...

BUT ALAS, THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO. AFTER THE UNDERCARD MATCHES ARE FINISHED, I'LL DECLARE YOU THE VICTOR AND SHUT DOWN THE COLISEUM. I ASSUME YOU WILL FIND THAT ACCEPTABLE?
SINCE BOTH YOU AND THE CHALLENGER WERE MISSING, WE THREW TOGETHER THOSE UNDERCARD FIGHTS JUST TO BUY TIME
LOOKED INTO THE MATTER. WHEN THE CHALLENGER FAILED TO ARRIVE ON TIME, APPARENTLY HE BLED TO DEATH IN THAT HOTEL ROOM.

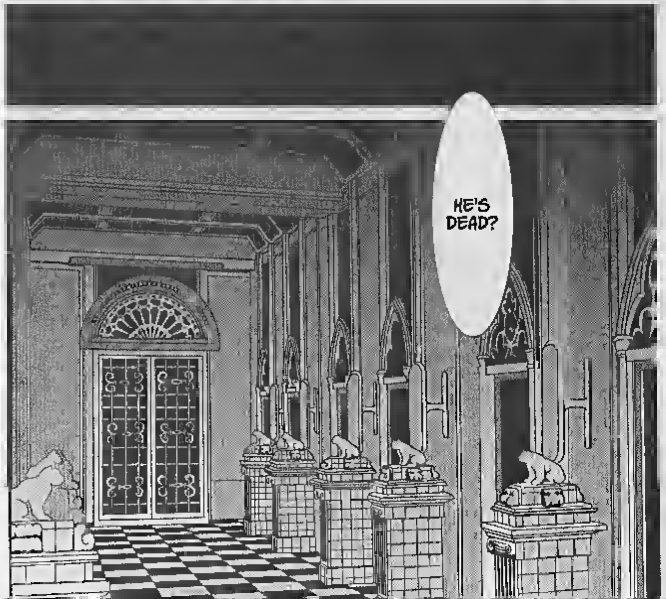
NO. I'LL FIGHT.


I CAN'T FIND A CHALLENGER ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE!
WHAT AM I TO DO?!
B-BUT...
WHAT?!!
ONE WILL SHOW UP.

POSTPONE THE TITLE BATTLE. FIND A NEW CHALLENGER.

Ha ha!
Hah hah hah
Ha ha ha!
Hee hee

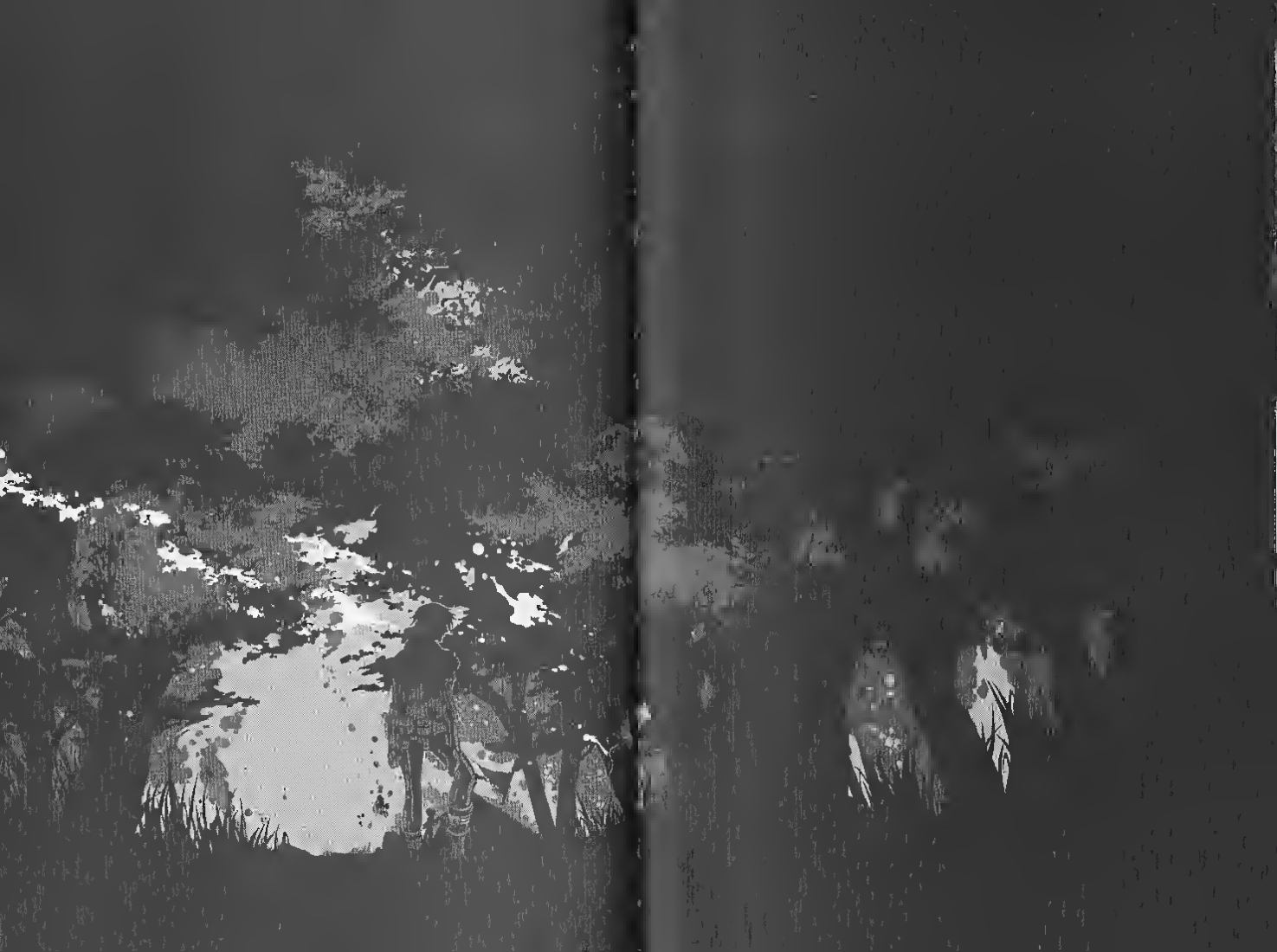
I'LL BE DAMNED.
THIS SUCKER IS STILL ALIVE, HUH?


HE'S DEAD?

CANCEL THE COLISEUM EVENTS IMMEDIATELY!
WHAT? THE UNDERCARDS AREN'T FINISHED YET?
BEFORE I LEAVE TOSHIMA, I EITHER HAVE TO ELIMINATE SHIKI OR GET MY HANDS ON THE UNDILUTED SOLUTION
THE WAY HE WAS ACTING... SHIKI MUST KNOW THE SOURCE OF THE 50% AFTER ALL!
OTHERWISE, HE WOULDN'T BE SO COMPLACENT. HE DETESTS LINE FAIR TOO MUCH TO ALLOW SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
YOU'RE CANCELING? WHY'D YA DO THAT?
OHHHH?
KICK THEM OUT! KICK EVERYONE OUT!
I DON'T CARE!
WAIT... WHAT?!
I SWEAR! WHY DOES EVERYONE HAVE TO BE SO SELFISH?
WOULD IT KILL YOU TO SHOW A LITTLE FIDELITY TO THE COMPANY?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING BACK SO EARLY, ANYWAY?
I brought you a little friend
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU NOT TO ENTER MY ROOM WITHOUT PERMISSION?!
REGARDLESS, I'M STILL LOOKING FOR COMPATIBLES THE STRONGER THE BETTER
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO TOLD ME THAT 50% LEADS TO TOO MANY INCOMPATIBILITIES
RELAX I KNOW THAT
TH-THE 50% IS NOT MY DOING...
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS FAN THE FLAMES, AND THEY'LL COME FLOCKING.
THEY SAY THAT LINE WITH A RIDICULOUSLY HIGH CONCENTRATION HAS APPEARED.
...THROWN INTO...
CHAOS!
BUT!! IF YOU DO THAT, THE VISCHIO WILL BE... WILL BE
YOU ALWAYS WERE A COWARD.

I KNOW YOU USUALLY LIKE 'EM YOUNG, BUT...
NOTOM...!!
DogTag:23
DAMN.
HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT, HAVE YOU?
ARBITRO.
BEEN A WHILE, HUH?

I'M NOT EXPECTING YOU TO LIVE THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW OR ANYTHING...
BUT DO YOU HAVE TO BE SUCH A FUCKING BASTARD ABOUT EVERYTHING YOU DO?
AFTER ALL, I DON'T HAVE ANY RIGHT TO JUDGE OTHERS.
THERE REALLY IS NO HOPE FOR YOU, IS THERE?
SILENCE!!
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF SPEAKING TO YOU!
I REFUSE TO ASSOCIATE WITH SOMEONE WITH NO SENSE OF CLASS AND NO APPRECIATION OF ART!
YOUR LIFE IS WHAT?
IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT THAT MY LIFE IS...IS...
"ART"? YOU'RE STILL GOING ON ABOUT THAT?
WHAT WOULD YOU KNOW?!
I DON'T EVEN WANT TO KNOW.
SHOOT HIM DEAD!
"PROJECT NICOLE" IS MIXED UP IN THIS LINE BUSINESS, ISN'T IT?
NOT ONLY ARE YOU A PERVERT, NOW YOU'RE OBSESSED WITH MONEY, TOO? HIDING BEHIND THAT RIDICULOUS MASK...YOU MAKE ME WANNA PUKE.
SILENCE! SHUT UP! SHUT UP!
No wonder! But I worked hard to get these!
Then look!
H?
WHAT?!
IT WAS A FAIR PUNISHMENT.
ARE YOU SAYING WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU WAS MY FAULT? YOU BROUGHT IT UPON YOURSELF.



PREMIER TEAM, READY FOR EXTRACTION.
ROGER THAT. EXTRACTION IN PROCESS.
WHAT'S THE TIME?
SEVEN MINUTES AND 13 SECONDS.
THAT'S IT...?
RESULT, TOTAL ANNIHILATION.

TAT TAT TAT
TAT TAT TAT
GAHH
UGH
TAT TAT TAT
THUNK

I SEE.
FROM WHEN HE MET WITH EMMA, HUH?
YEAH, BUT TAKE A LOOK AT THIS.
SHE MUST'VE DONE A GOOD JOB OF TAMING HIM. ALL THE OTHER PROTO-TYPES HAVE TROUBLE WITH THEIR EMOTIONAL CONTROL SYSTEMS.
KIND OF FRIGHTENING, ACTUALLY. THE WAY HE KILLS WITH A STRAIGHT FACE LIKE THAT. HARDLY ANY EMO-TIONAL DATA FLUCTUA-TIONS.
HE'S SETTING NEW RECORDS ACROSS THE BOARD.
PREMIER 6'S STABILITY IS ON A DIFFERENT LEVEL THAN THE OTHER NUMBERS
HE'S A DEMON OF THE BATTLE-FIELD.
BUT THAT'S TO BE EXPECTED, SEEING THAT EACH OF THE SIX NICOLE UNITS WAS AS STRONG AS AN ENTIRE ENEMY SQUADRON
EVEN IF THE EFFECTS WERE WEAKER, THE USERS HAD THE SAME POWER AS THE ENED'S NICOLE UNITS.
WHEN LINE STARTED SHOWING UP IN THE STREETS, I WAS REALLY SURPRISED.
Hah heh...
SHE IS ONE HELL OF A WOMAN.
...I GUESS YOU CAN'T CONTROL ALL OF HIS EMOTIONS.
EVEN THOUGH HE'S A DEMON...
THIS OUGHT TO SHUT UP THOSE IDIOTS FROM THE MILITARY!
THE SUPE-RIORS ALREADY SENT WORD
A PER-FECT BATTLE RE-CORD!
YOU DID IT, EMMA!
CONGRATULATIONS
HA HA... WELL, ALL THAT MAT-TERS ARE THE RE-SULTS.
Hah heh.
WELL, WHAT DO YOU EXPECT? NOTHING MOTIVATES TEENAGE BOYS LIKE A NICE PAIR OF BOOBS.
LOOK AT HOW MANY HE KILLED! THAT "PREMIER" OF HERS REALLY IS THE BEST.
MAYBE SO.

TIME GOES ON, BUT YOU'RE STILL AS FOOLISH AS EVER.
HA HA!
IT'S REMARKABLE.
HEH HEH HEH...
HA HA HA!
KIRIWAR!!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO HASN'T CHANGED!
ARE-GANT TO THE BITTER END.
WILL YOU EVER LEARN?
AND DON'T GET ME STARTED ON THAT OBLIGUAL ATTITUDE OF YOURS! WHOSE CASTLE DO YOU THINK THIS IS? ONCE AGAIN, I SEE MY LONG-STANDING CONTENTION FOR YOU: IGNORANCE IS WELL FOUNDED!
I LEAVE YOU ON THE STREETS AND YOU STILL FIND A WAY TO SURVIVE! YOU'RE AS PERSISTENT AS A WEED AND EVERY BIT AS UNDESIRABLE!

IT'S UNBELIEVABLE
THAT IS, UNTIL SOME PUNKS DUG IT UP, SLAPPED A LABEL ON IT AND STARTED SELLING IT ON THE STREET.
STILL, TO SAVE THEMSELVES THE EMBARRASSMENT, REBIT SHUT DOWN THE ENED AND SEALED AWAY THE RESULTS OF THEIR RESEARCH.
OF COURSE, THE HUMAN EXPERIMENTATION DURING THE WAR WAS NEVER PUBLICIZED
THE WEST AND THE EAST WANT THE REAL THING, NOT THIS CRAP YOU'RE SELLING.
I ADMIT, YOU'VE PUT ON A PRETTY GOOD SHOW... BUT THE JIG IS UP.
BUT I AM AN INFORMATION DEALER AFTER ALL, SO I HAVE A PRETTY GOOD IDEA OF WHAT'S GOING ON ALL THE SAME.
I WON'T BOTHER ASKING HOW THAT HAPPENED, SINCE I KNOW YOU'LL NEVER TALK.
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO GET SWALLOWED UP BY THIS WHOLE LINE FIASCO, YOU'D BETTER QUIT WHILE YOU'RE AHEAD.
THAT IS, IF YOU VALUE YOUR LIFE MORE THAN YOUR MONEY.
TRUST ME ON THIS ONE. EVEN IF I HATE TO ADMIT IT, YOU AND I ARE TWO OF A KIND.
HEH!
NOT ANYMORE.
YOU DON'T HAVE TIME TO WASTE ON THESE COLISEUM SHOWS.

Y-YOU INSOLENT BEAST!
JUST GO AS DEEP AS YOU CAN GO-- THEN GO DEEPER!
HAS THE LITTLE CHICK SHOWN UP YET?
SORRY, BUT I DON'T KNOW WHERE THAT IS
LOCK THIS LOATH-SOME MAGGOT AWAY!
IN THE DEEPEST, DEEPEST, DEEPEST REACHES OF THE CASTLE!
...NGH!

IF I END UP A MUMMY LIKE ONE OF THOSE STATUES, I SWEAR I'M GONNA CURSE EVERY LAST ONE OF YOU!
NO IT'S NOT FINE!
huff
huff

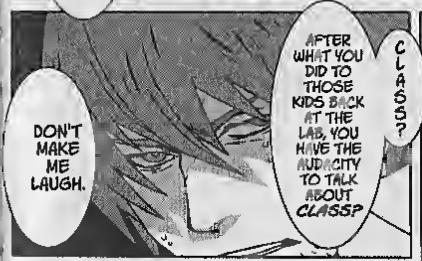
WHEREVER THERE'S NOTHING BUT STATUES BACK THERE ANYWAY. BUT I'M WARNING YOU...
...YOU'LL LOSE HIM IN THERE.
THAT FINE.

FIGURED. HE'S TOUGH TO CATCH.
NOPE. HAVEN'T SEEN HIM.
CAN I USE THE BACK ROOM?
That's probably "enough" enough, right?

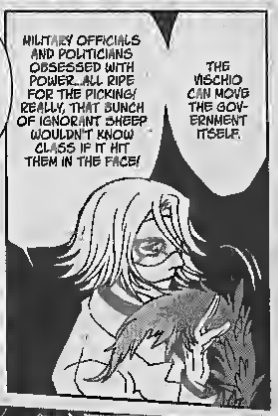
ROGER THAT.
I'M NOT A SHORT-SIGHTED FOOL LIKE YOU.

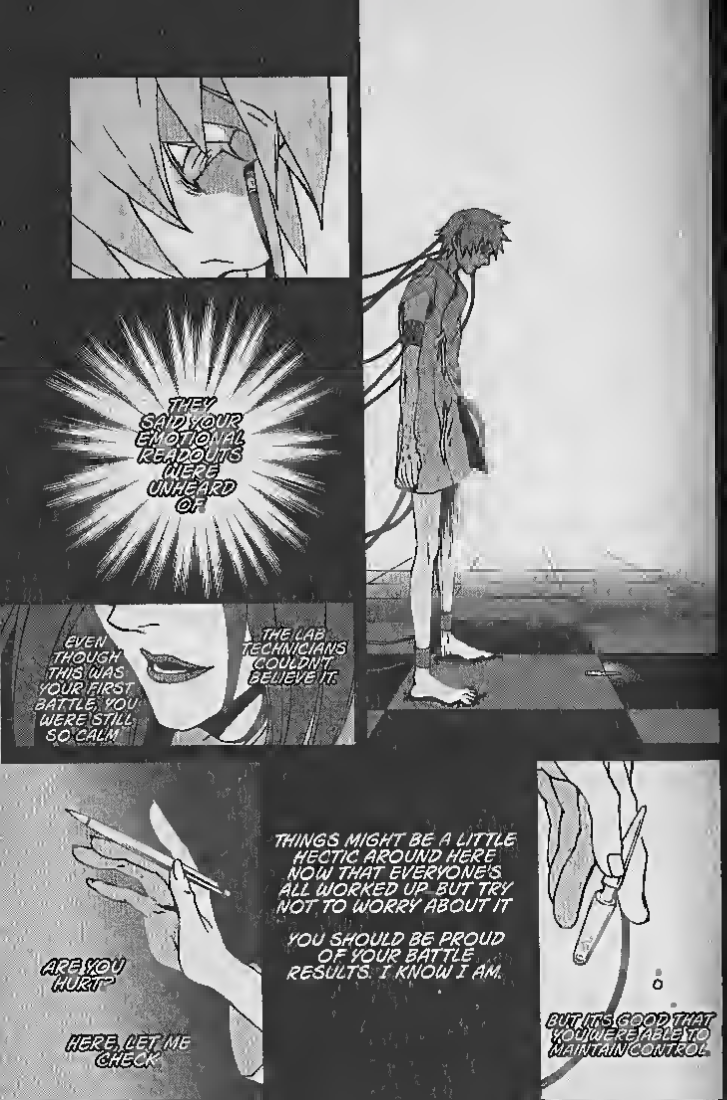
LOCK THIS MAN UP!

LOCK HIM UP? WHERE?
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHERE! JUST GET HIS IRRITATING FACE OUT OF MY SIGHT!
AND MAKE SURE I NEVER SEE IT AGAIN!

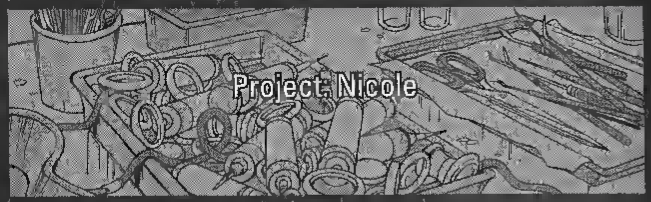

DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH.
AFTER WHAT YOU DID TO THOSE KIDS BACK AT THE LAB, YOU HAVE THE AUDACITY TO TALK ABOUT CLASS?
CLASS?

WHACKKK


MILITARY OFFICIALS AND POLITICIANS OBSESSED WITH POWER...ALL RIPE FOR THE PICKING! REALLY, THAT BUNCH OF IGNORANT SHEEP WOULDN'T KNOW CLASS IF IT HIT THEM IN THE FACE!
THE MISCHIO CAN MOVE THE GOV-ERNMENT ITSELF.

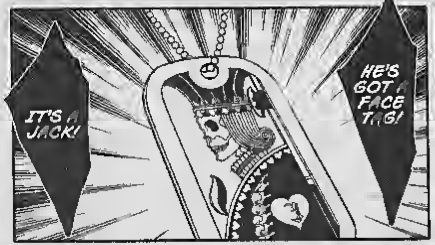

THEY SAID YOUR EMOTIONAL READOUTS WERE UNHEARD OF.
EVEN THOUGH THIS WAS YOUR FIRST BATTLE, YOU WERE STILL SO CALM
THE LAB TECHNICIANS COULDN'T BELIEVE IT.
ARE YOU HURT?
HERE, LET ME CHECK
THINGS MIGHT BE A LITTLE HECTIC AROUND HERE NOW THAT EVERYONE'S ALL WORKED UP. BUT TRY NOT TO WORRY ABOUT IT
YOU SHOULD BE PROUD OF YOUR BATTLE RESULTS. I KNOW I AM.
BUT IT'S GOOD THAT YOU WERE ABLE TO MAINTAIN CONTROL.

ISN'T THERE A WAR GOING ON?!
MAYBE IT WAS JUST POST-PONED OR SOME-THING.
LET'S GO
THIS SU-CKS.
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA... KICK-ING US OUT?!
THE IL RE BATTLE IS CAN-CELED?!!



Nicole: Premier

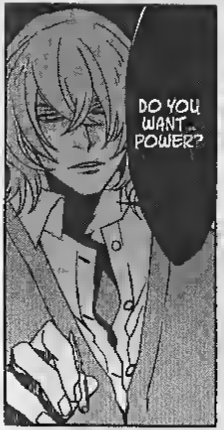
YOU HEAR ME?!
BETTER WATCH YOUR ATTI-TUDE!
WHAT WAS THAT, PUNK?!


IT'S A JACK!
HE'S GOT A FACE TAG!

CHECK IT OUT!
WHOA!
I'LL BE YOUR WITNESS DO IT.

THEY'RE HAVING AN IGURA MATCH OVER THERE!
WHOA, LOOK!

WHAT? A FACE TAG?!


DO YOU WANT POWER?

THE CAS-TLE'S A NEU-TRAL ZONE, REMEM-BER?
Huh?
WHAT THE HELL, MAN?

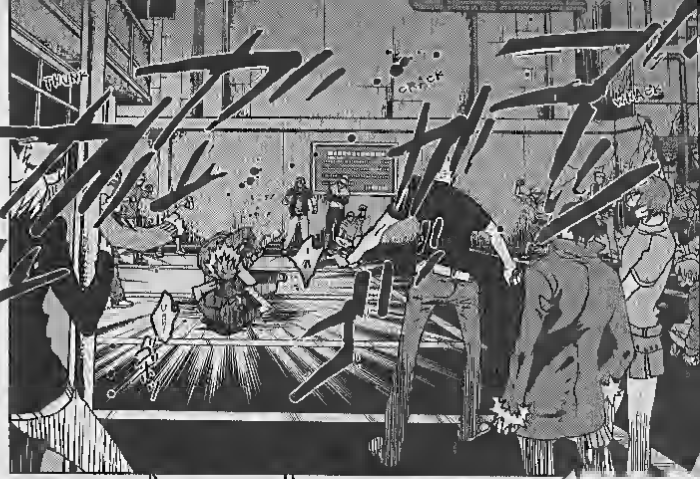
GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME...

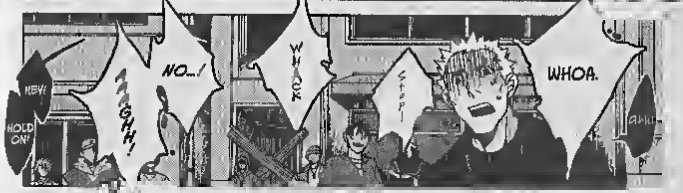
GRAB

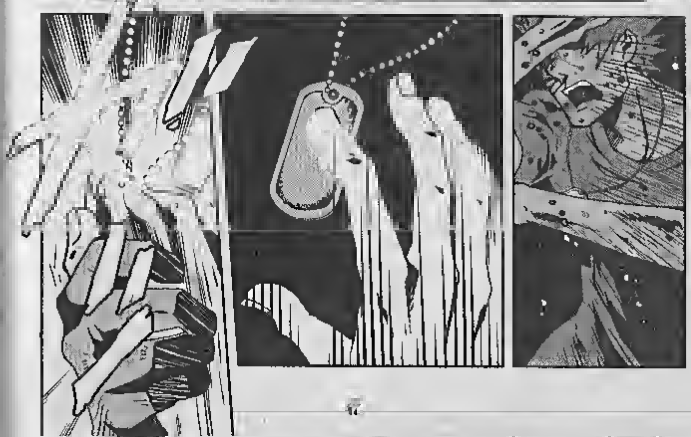
TOO BAD
YOU'RE SLOW, BUT YOU HANDLE A KNIFE WELL.
NGH...
COMPARED TO A 50% LINE USER...
LET'S DO THIS.
...HE'S NOTHING.
WHY IS HE SO SLOW?
I CAN SEE HIS ATTACKS COMING FROM A MILE AWAY.
HE'S WEAK.

YAHHHH!!
AGH...!
GGH

F... FUCK YOU!!
YOU'RE ON YOUR BACK
THAT'S THE RULE


THUNK
CRACK
WHOA


HEY!
HOLD ON!
NO...!
WHOA.

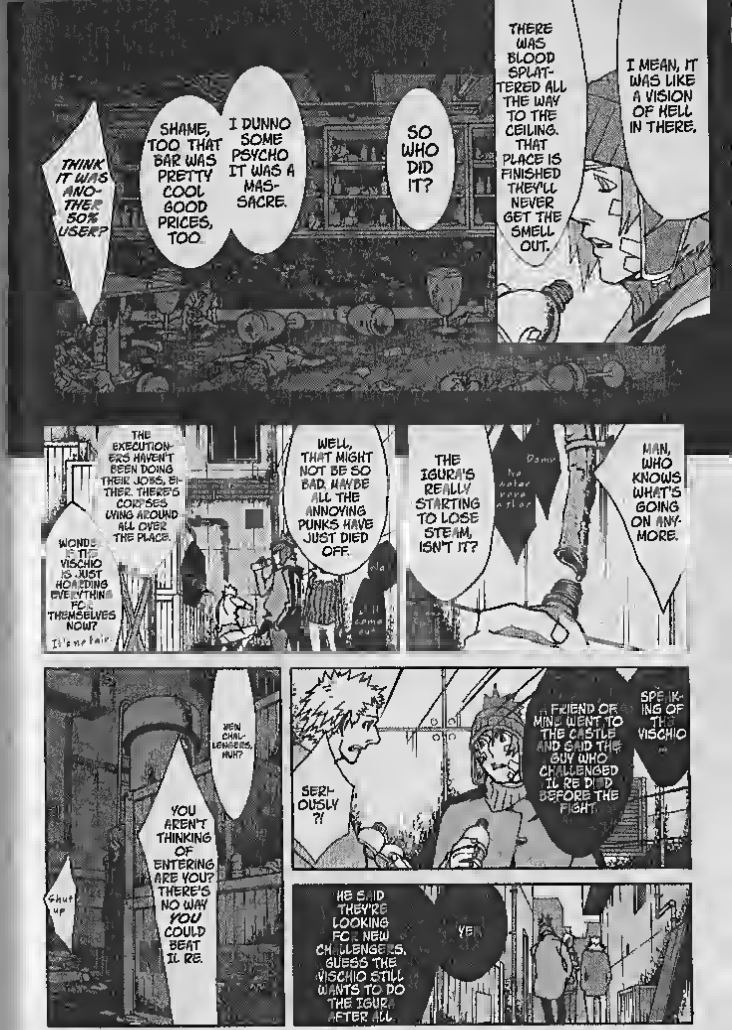


YOU HAVE ANY TAGS IN YOUR POCKET?

STOP IT!
HE'S HAD ENOUGH! JUST STOP!
PLEASE!
CAN'T YOU SEE YOU'VE ALREADY WON?!
IT'S OVER!
LOOK AT HIM!!

YEAH, MAN.
IT WAS TOTALLY CRAZY.

CLIP
CLIP
CRUSH
?!
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING
I CAN'T BELIEVE HE CAN STILL WALK!


I MEAN, IT WAS LIKE A VISION OF HELL IN THERE.
THERE WAS BLOOD SPLATTERED ALL THE WAY TO THE CEILING. THAT PLACE IS FINISHED THEY'LL NEVER GET THE SMELL OUT.
SO WHO DID IT?
I DUNNO SOME PSYCHO IT WAS A MASSACRE.
SHAME, TOO THAT BAR WAS PRETTY COOL GOOD PRICES, TOO.
THINK IT WAS ANOTHER 50% USER?
THE EXECUTIONERS HAVEN'T BEEN DOING THEIR JOBS, BITHER. THERE'S CORPSES LYING AROUND ALL OVER THE PLACE.
WONDER IF THE VISCHIO IS JUST HOARDING EVERYTHING FOR THEMSELVES NOW?
WELL, THAT MIGHT NOT BE SO BAD. MAYBE ALL THE ANNOYING PUNKS HAVE JUST DIED OFF.
THE IGURA'S REALLY STARTING TO LOSE STEAM, ISN'T IT?
MAN, WHO KNOWS WHAT'S GOING ON ANYMORE.
SHUT UP
YOU AREN'T THINKING OF ENTERING ARE YOU? THERE'S NO WAY YOU COULD BEAT IL RE.
NEW CHALLENGERS, HUH?
SERIOUSLY ?!
A FRIEND OF MINE WENT TO THE CASTLE AND SAID THE GUY WHO CHALLENGED IL RE DIED BEFORE THE FIGHT.
SPEAKING OF THE VISCHIO
HE SAID THEY'RE LOOKING FOR NEW CHALLENGERS. GUESS THE VISCHIO STILL WANTS TO DO THE IGURA AFTER ALL.
YEP.

HUFF...
HUFF
HUFF
CLATTER
DAMN IT-
NGH...
huff
huff
huff

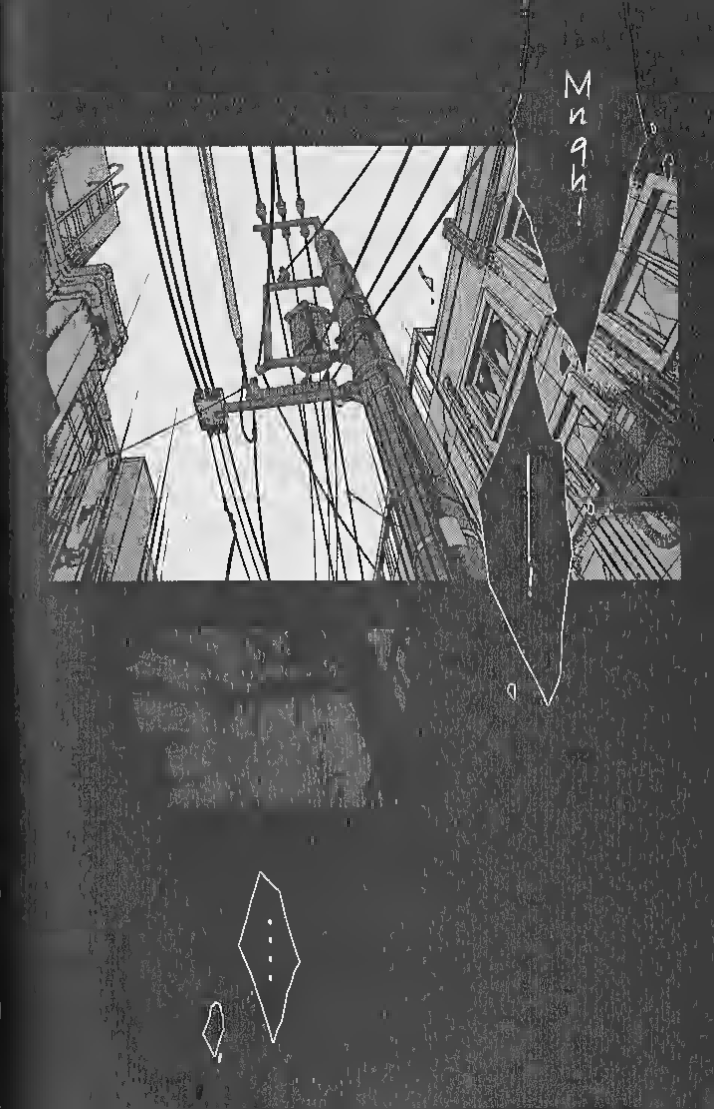
SSSCH
TREMBLE
HUFF...

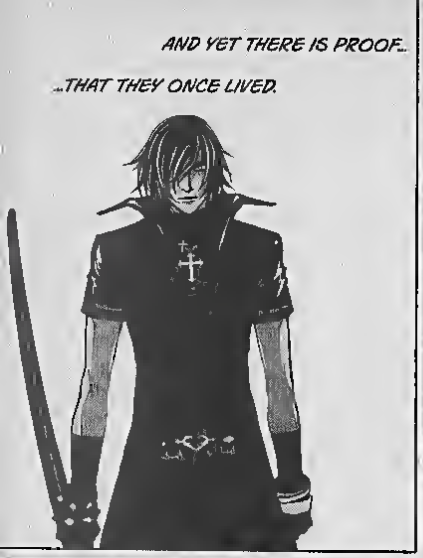
IS THIS...
...WHAT IT'S LIKE?
IS THIS THE IGURA?

I COULDN'T HEAR THEIR VOICES.
I COULDN'T STOP MY HANDS.
WHEN I CAME BACK TO MY SENSES...I WAS COVERED IN BLOOD.
...SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAPPENED.
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME...

JING II...
...IS STILL... BURNING.
MY LEFT HAND...
MMPH...!
THE OLD MAN MIGHT BE WAITING AT THE CASTLE ALREADY.
WHICH WAY WAS IT AGAIN?
IS THIS THE STREET?
I COMPLETELY LOST TRACK OF TIME.
CLINK
IS HE...
...GOING TO DIE?
CLINK
CLINK

Dog Tag 24
THE SMELL OF RUSTED METAL AND ROTTING FLESH...

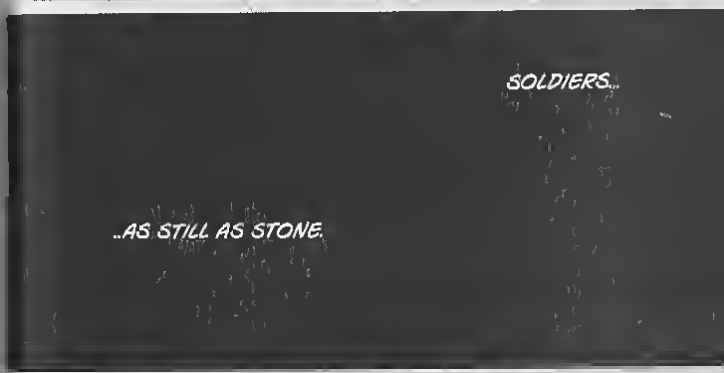

Mngh!

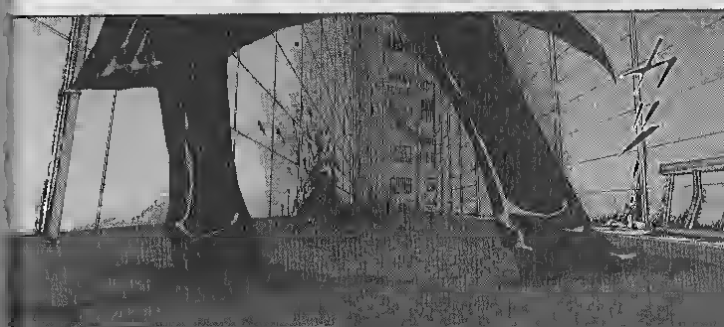

AND YET THERE IS PROOF...
...THAT THEY ONCE LIVED.

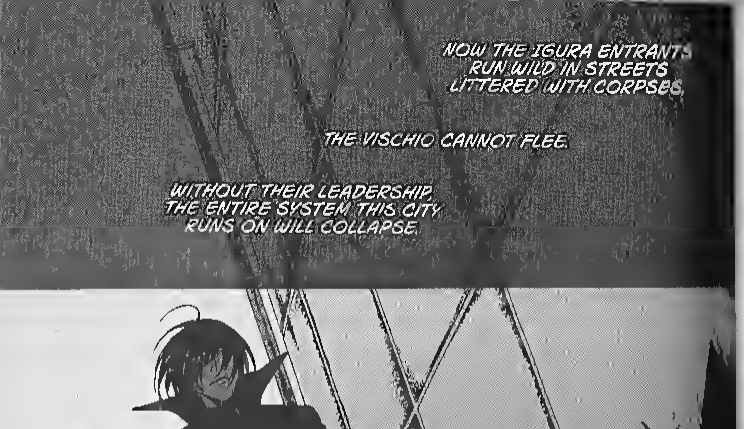
AMIDST THE NEVER ENDING SEA OF BLOODSHED
THEY LIE IN A BATTLEFIELD WHERE TIME HAS STOPPED.

BODIES PILED UPON ONE ANOTHER...
THE LAND BLACKENED LIKE COAL...

AS EVEN IN DEATH...
...THEIR FACES ARE ETCHED WITH FEAR.


SOLDIERS...
...AS STILL AS STONE.

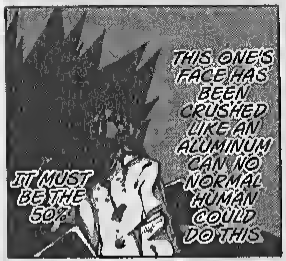


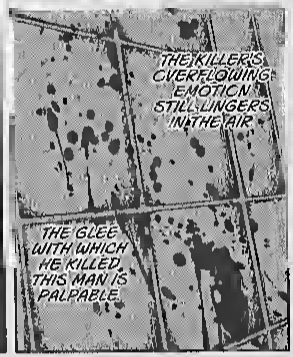

NOW THE IGURA ENTRANTS RUN WILD IN STREETS LITTERED WITH CORPSES.
THE VISCHIO CANNOT FLEE.
WITHOUT THEIR LEADERSHIP, THE ENTIRE SYSTEM THIS CITY RUNS ON WILL COLLAPSE.

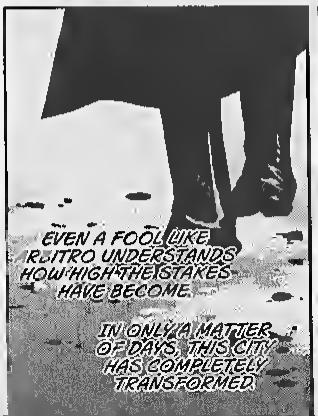
THE STENCH OF CORPSES...
IT GROWS STRONGER.

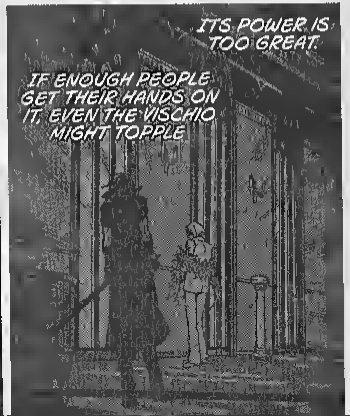
NO. THIS WAS BUTCHERY FOR THE SAKE OF BUTCHERY.
FOR THOSE WHO USE "DEATH" IS THE ONLY TRUTH.

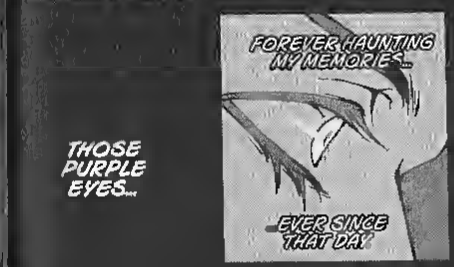
IT WASN'T PREMIER.


THIS ONE'S FACE HAS BEEN CRUSHED LIKE AN ALUMINUM CAN. NO NORMAL HUMAN COULD DO THIS.
IT MUST BE THE SO?


THE KILLER'S OVERFLOWING EMOTION STILL LINGERS IN THE AIR.
THE GLEE WITH WHICH HE KILLED THIS MAN IS PALPABLE.


EVEN A FOOL LIKE ROITRO UNDERSTANDS HOW HIGH THE STAKES HAVE BECOME.
IN ONLY A MATTER OF DAYS, THIS CITY HAS COMPLETELY TRANSFORMED.


ITS POWER IS TOO GREAT.
IF ENOUGH PEOPLE GET THEIR HANDS ON IT, EVEN THE VISCHIO MIGHT TOPPLE.



THOSE PURPLE EYES...

THERE ISN'T A HINT OF HESITATION IN HIS STEP.
MAYBE HE REALLY CAN SEE.
WHAT ARMY IS HE FROM? I'VE NEVER SEEN A UNIFORM LIKE THAT BEFORE.
BUT THIS IS INSANE. THE WHOLE UNIT... GONE.
MY CLIENTS ARE WAITING BACK AT CAMP. ALL I HAVE TO DO IS SIT HERE AND WATCH.
MY PRIORITY IS RECONNAISSANCE.
WE HAVE THE COVER OF THE WOODS, AND IT'S NEARLY DARK.
EVEN IF HE KNEW I WAS HERE, HE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO EFFECTIVELY PINPOINT ME.
THESE NAMELESS, FACELESS SOLDIERS
WANDER THROUGH A SEA OF CORPSES
LIKE PHANTOMS FROM ANOTHER REALM.
BUT THIS ONE STANDS OUT.
IS HE THEIR LEADER?
ドドド
DRUMMING

HE CAN'T BE. NOT AT THAT DISTANCE.
NO ONE CAN SEE THAT FAR.
IS HE WATCHING ME?
!!

THOSE PURPLE EYES...

IN THAT MOMENT,
I LOST EVERYTHING.

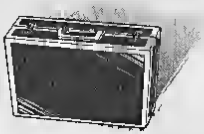
THE THICK SMELL OF BLOOD..
THE STENCH OF BURNT METAL..
THE SOLID GROUND LYING
BENEATH MY FEET..
THE COLD, ENTANGLING AIR
OF THE WOODS..

ALL OF THESE THINGS,
WHICH ONLY A MOMENT AGO I
FELT SO ACUTELY. SUDDENLY
VANISHED FROM MY BODY.

I CREATED THE VISCHIO AND HELD THE IGURA MATCHES.

I RAN THIS TOWN SO THAT I COULD TRACK HIM DOWN.

BECAUSE I HAD HEARD THAT HE APPEARED IN TOSHIMA, I CHOSE THIS CITY.



AND SO HE APPEARS... OVER AND OVER AGAIN.

THAT MAN ONLY WATCHES.

NO MATTER HOW THEY PILE UPON ONE ANOTHER, THEY CANNOT MOVE THAT MAN'S HEART.

SUCH THINGS AS CORPSES...

JUST AS HE DID THAT DAY WHEN HE WAS WATCHING ME

NO PRESENCE OF WILL... NO PRESENCE OF DESIRE.

ONLY HIS CLEAR EYES, SHINING IN THE HOLLOW DARKNESS.

NICOLE: PREMIER.

SLASH
Gya ha!

BUT JUST WHEN IT SEEMS THAT HE'S WITHIN MY GRASP...
...HE DISAPPEARS... FADING AWAY LIKE A MIRAGE
I'M SURE HE KNOWS I'M PURSUING HIM. OTHERWISE, HE WOULDN'T LEAVE TRACES EVERYWHERE HE GOES.
HE IS A SHADOW DANCING JUST BEYOND MY REACH!
BUT IF I LOSE SIGHT OF HIM FOR EVEN AN INSTANT, HE MAY VANISH COMPLETELY.
AND YET, THE SNIDE LITTLE SOUVENIRS HE LEAVES FOR ME PROVE THAT HE'S NO ILLUSION.
EVERY TIME, A SINGLE VIAL OF UNDILUTED LINE...

A PHONY GHOST?
SO WHAT DOES THAT MAKE YOU?
..BUT YOU CAN'T DISAP- PEAR FOR REAL, RIGHT?
YOU'RE PRETTY DAMN FAST.

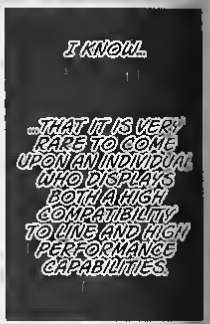
YOU CAN'T HIDE FROM MEEEEE, MR. GHOST.

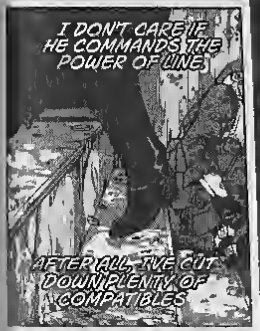
AHH
HM?
KUH?

I couldn't find you on the ground, but I found you in the sky! ♪
Just like the geezer said.
I guess ghosts really do like high places, huh?

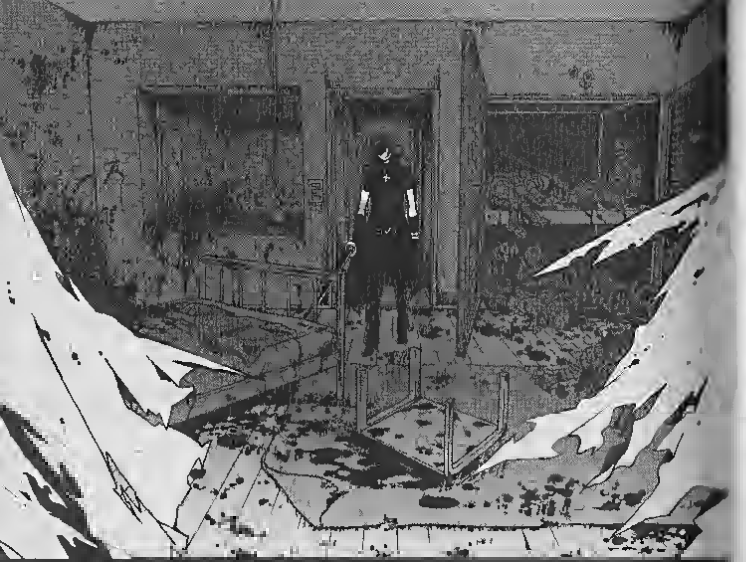
...THE STREETS WOULD BE TOO CROWDED TO WALK THROUGH!!
IF YOU COUNTED ALL THE GHOSTS IN TOSHIMA...
THAT HUMILIATION...

RRRGH!
AH!
?!!
WHOA!
AH?
WHOOSH!
WHOA
GYA HA! ♪
I TOUCHED YOU! I TOUCHED YOU!
IT'S JUST LIKE THE OLD GEEZER SAID!


I KNOW...
...THAT IT IS VERY RARE TO COME UPON AN INDIVIDUAL WHO DISPLAYS BOTH A HIGH COMPATIBILITY TO LINE AND HIGH PERFORMANCE CAPABILITIES.



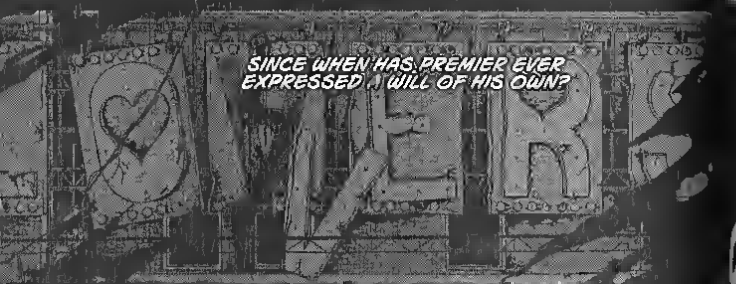
WITH THESE TWO HANDS, I WILL VANQUISH THOSE MEMORIES

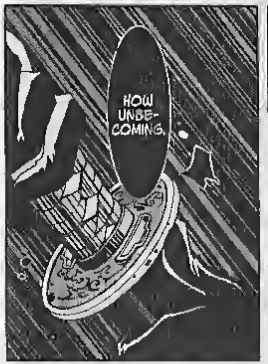


THE 50%, THIS IS UNMISTAKABLY HIS DOING.

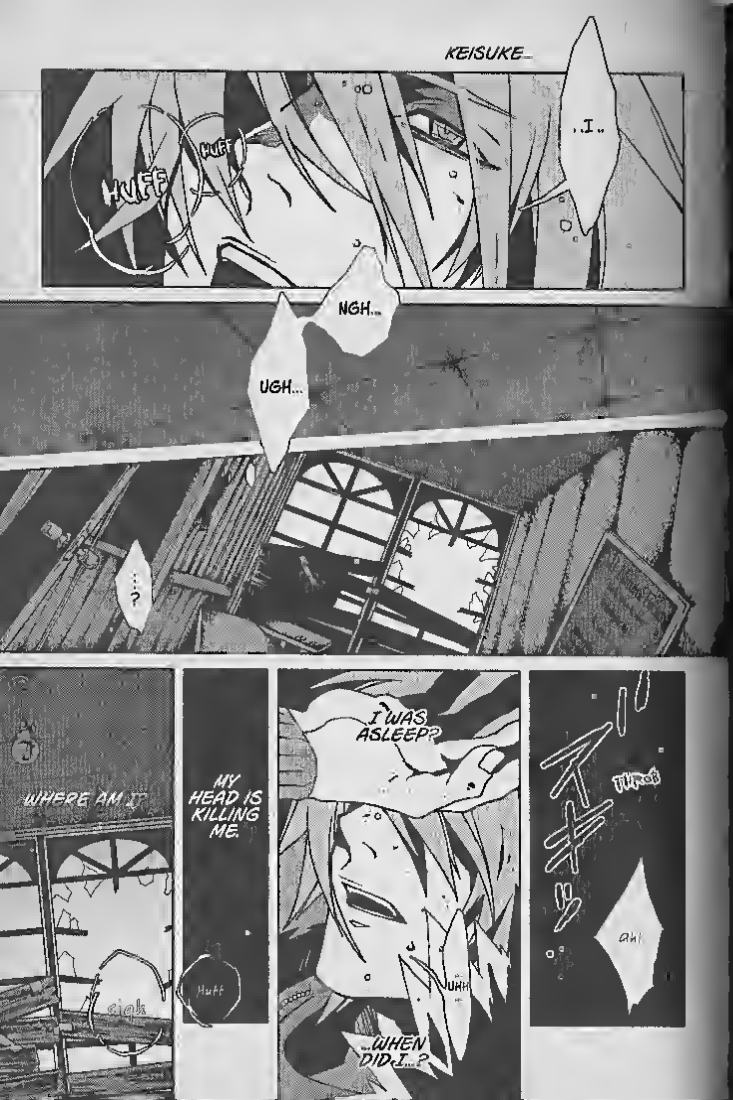
BUT WHY, AFTER STAYING IN HIDING FOR SO LONG..

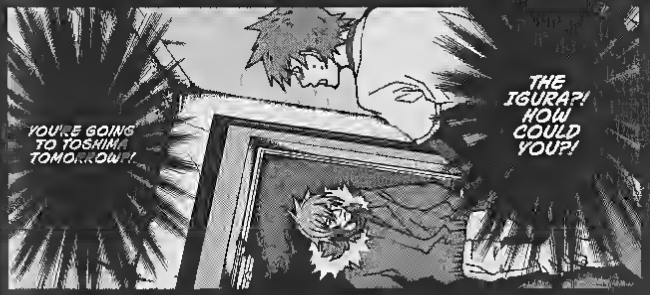
..HAS HE SUDDENLY DECIDED TO APPEAR?



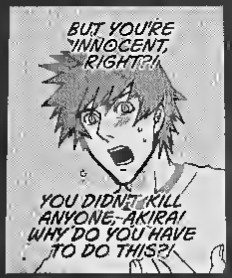


DogTag#45
WHAT HAS CHANGED?



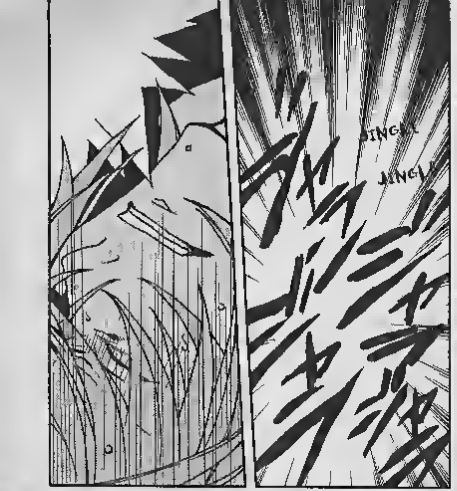


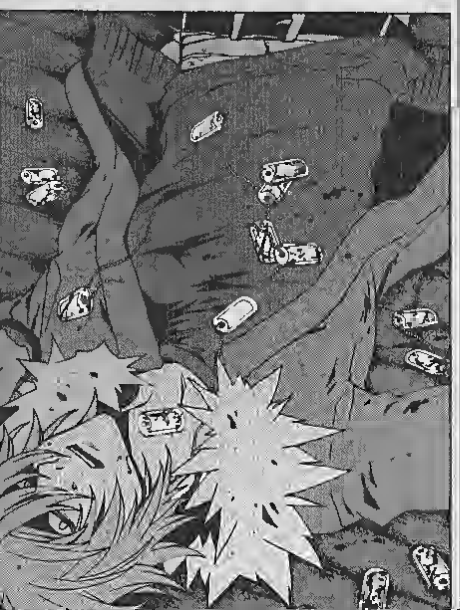
THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU, KEISUKE.



Nah.
Uah...
Gh... gahhh!
DON'T TRY TO GET UP. YOU'RE STILL HURT, RIGHT?
WHY DON'T YOU AND I HAVE A NICE, LONG CHAT?
KTHUNK

ARE YOU AWAKE?
SLEEPING BEAUTY?

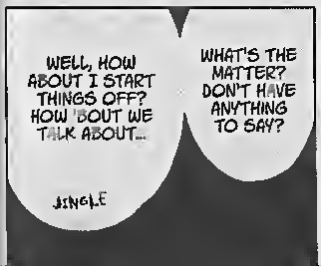

JINGLE
JINGLE



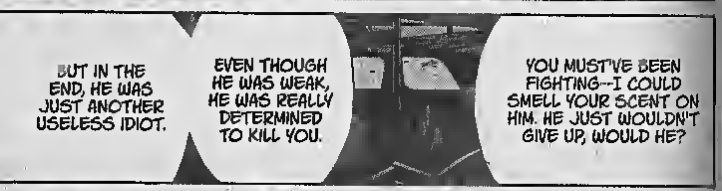
MY HEROIC ADVEN-TURES.

LET'S JUST SIT BACK AND TAKE IT EASY.
Aagh!
Ngh
C'MON
CRUNCH

YOU AND I HAVEN'T HAD A DECENT TALK IN AGES. THAT'S ALL I'M SAYING.

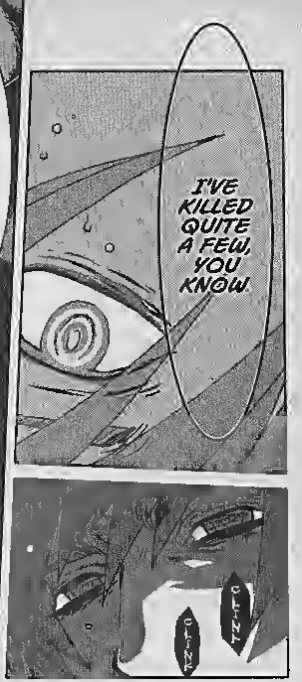

WELL, HOW ABOUT I START THINGS OFF? HOW 'BOUT WE TALK ABOUT...
JINGLE
WHAT'S THE MATTER? DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY?

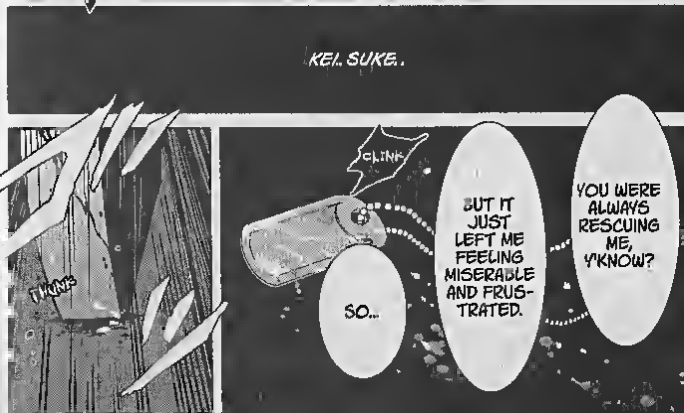
I WENT BACK AND GOT EVEN WITH HIM.
AH...
SEE THIS?


BUT IN THE END, HE WAS JUST ANOTHER USELESS IDIOT.
EVEN THOUGH HE WAS WEAK, HE WAS REALLY DETERMINED TO KILL YOU.
YOU MUST'VE BEEN FIGHTING--I COULD SMELL YOUR SCENT ON HIM. HE JUST WOULDN'T GIVE UP, WOULD HE?

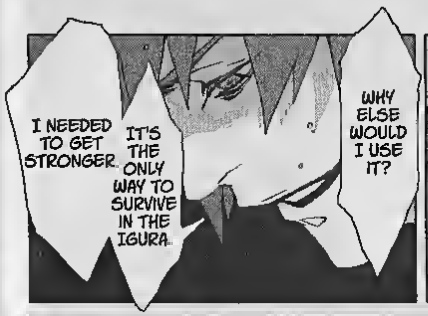
I CAN STILL TASTE IT.
WARM AND WET. I CAN STILL FEEL IT ON MY SKIN.
HIS BLOOD-- FELT REALLY GOOD
STILL, I'LL HAVE TO ADMIT:

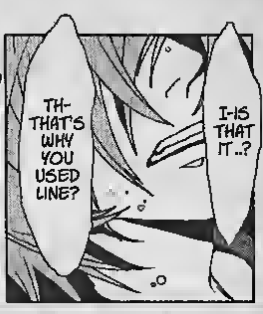
THERE'S NO HARM IN KILLING OFF A BUNCH OF IDIOTS, RIGHT?
IT'S NOT LIKE THEY HAD ANY REASON TO LIVE. AT LEAST THIS WAY, THEY LET ME HAVE A LITTLE FUN BEFORE THEY DIED.
THEY WERE ALL SO WEAK. ON TOP OF THAT, MOST OF THEM WERE IDIOTS, TOO
CLINK
CLINK
CLINK


I'VE KILLED QUITE A FEW, YOU KNOW
CLINK
CLINK


KEI..SUKE..
TWANG
CLINK
SO...
BUT IT JUST LEFT ME FEELING MISERABLE AND FRUSTRATED.
YOU WERE ALWAYS RESCUING ME, Y'KNOW?

I DON'T HAVE TO FOLLOW YOU AROUND LIKE SOME LOST PUPPY ANYMORE. ISN'T THIS WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED?
SEE? I'M NOT SO USELESS AFTER ALL! I CAN TAKE CARE OF THINGS JUST FINE!
IS THAT REALLY HOW HE FELT?
I WANT TO HELP YOU!
I WOULDN'T BE HERE RIGHT NOW, IF I HADN'T.
I'VE BECOME STRON-GER.
I'VE CHANGED.
...TOOK LINE...
YOU...
A LITTLE LATE TO BE SAYING THAT NOW, DON'T YOU THINK? IT'S NO SURPRISE.





TO HELP ME ?
DOES HE REALLY THINK THIS IS HELPING ME?

FINE.
Ughh
Ghh
Ngh
YOU'RE SO SELFISH, AKIRA.
I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT ME.
THAT I WAS STUBBORN... THAT I WAS A PAIN.

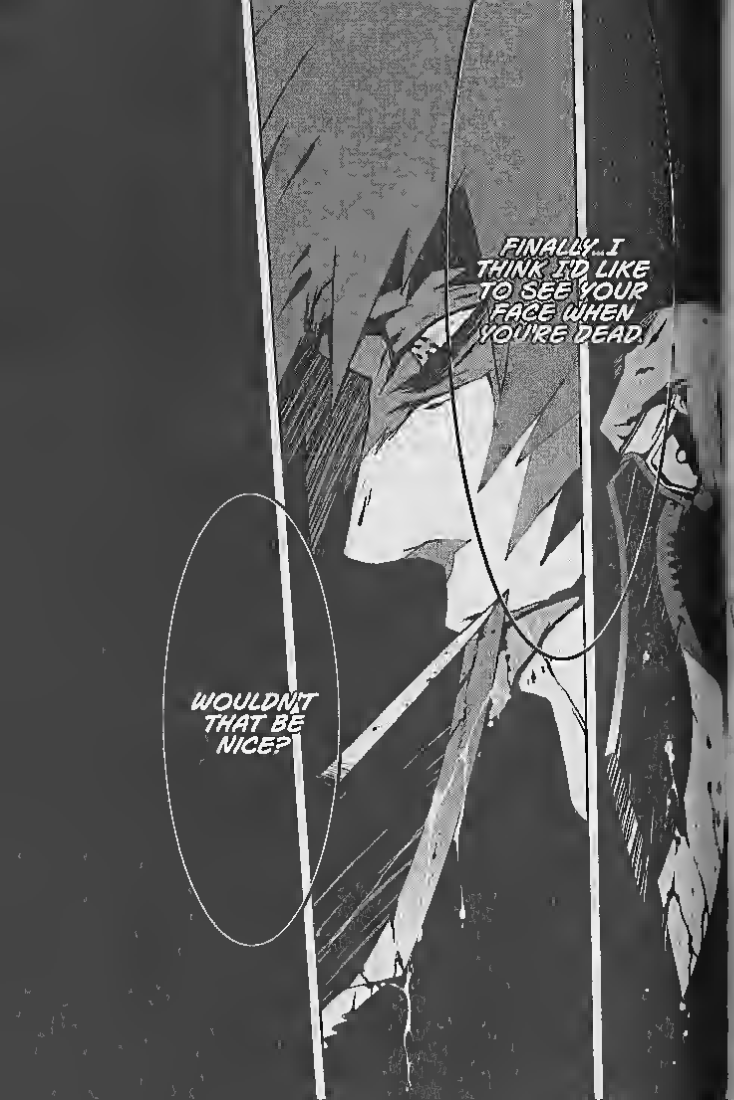
I SAID... YOU'RE WRONG...
ABOUT WHAT?
Ngh...
Ngh
USING LINE...
...TO GET STRONGER IS MEAN-INGLESS ...!
Ngh!

AKIRA...? IT'S REALLY YOU!
WHAT A RELIEF!
HEY, AKIRA...
DO YOU HATE ME?
Ugh
Gk

YOU DIDN'T LIKE ME HANGING AROUND, DID YOU?
THAT'S WHAT YOU TOLD ME TO DO, RIGHT AKIRA?
THAT'S WHY I'M DOING THINGS MY WAY NOW. I'M NOT FOLLOWING ANYONE.
C'MON.
HEY, DID I SAY SOMETHING WRONG?

I MUST HAVE BEEN A FUN LITTLE PET, OR YOU WOULDN'T HAVE KEPT ME AROUND, RIGHT?
N...
I...
DID IT MAKE YOU FEEL GOOD?
Nghh...
Gh...
HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THAT? LIKE HAVING A PET, MAYBE?
DID YOU ENJOY WATCHING ME MAKE A FOOL OF MYSELF?
Gghh...
HA HA HA... WELL, WHATEVER.
NONE OF THAT MATTERS RIGHT NOW ANYWAY.
JUMP
I'VE ONLY SEEN YOU MAKE A FEW DIFFERENT FACES.
Y'KNOW...IT'S STRANGE.

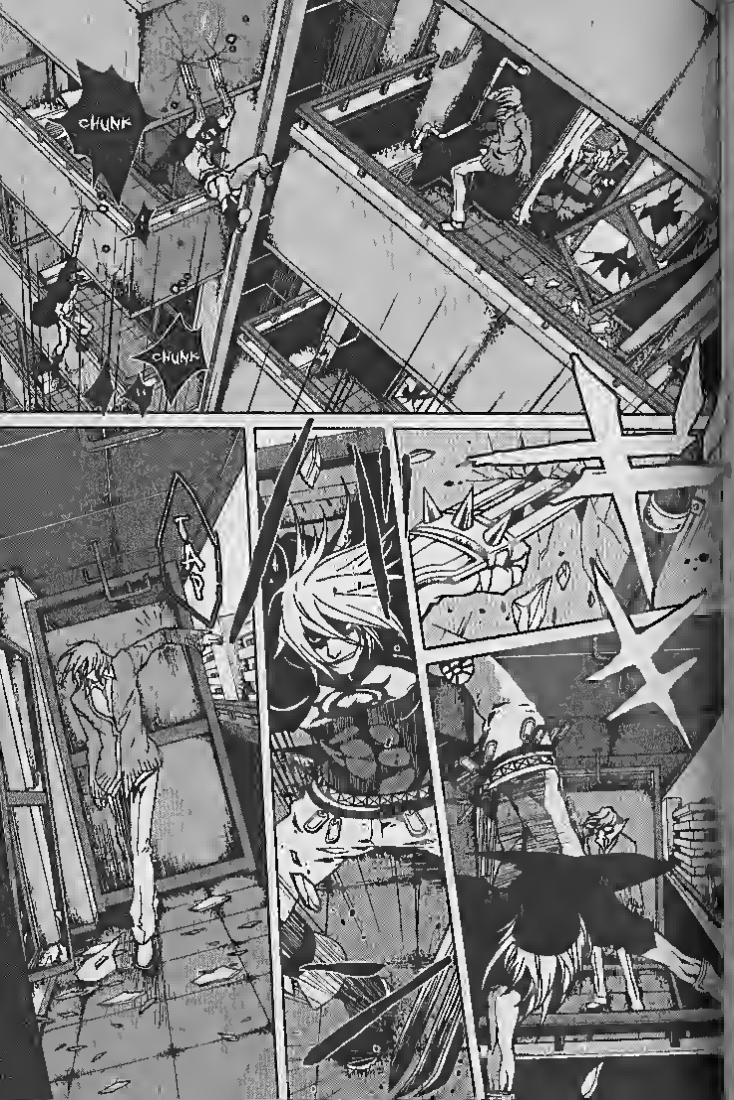
ALL THIS TIME .DID YOU KEEP ME AROUND JUST SO YOU COULD LOOK DOWN ON ME?
NO...!
YOU'RE ALWAYS GIVING ME THAT LOOK
IF YOU HATE ME, THEN JUST COME OUT AND SAY IT!
SHOO
YOU'RE SO CRUEL, AKIRA
"CARROT AND STICK" THEY CALL IT?
I WAS ALWAYS GETTING PICKED ON... PANICKING... PLAYING THE FOOL. THEN YOU WOULD COME ALONG AND RESCUE ME LIKE A KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOR.
BUT AS SOON AS YOUR MOOD SOURED YOU'D PUSH ME AWAY.
GRIN
GRIN

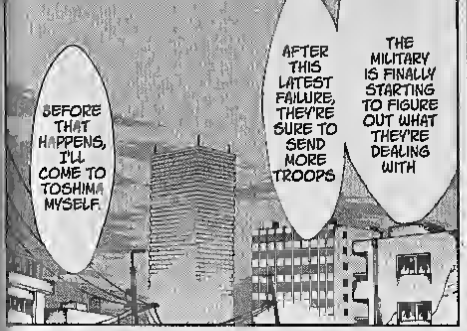

FINALLY... I THINK I'D LIKE TO SEE YOUR FACE WHEN YOU'RE DEAD.
WOULDN'T THAT BE NICE?

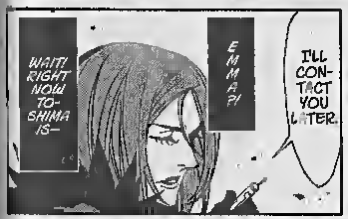
EVEN AFTER ALL THIS TIME, THAT'S ALL I KNOW.
THAT'S ABOUT IT.
YOUR SILENT FACE.
YOUR ANGRY FACE.
YOUR GLARING FACE.
BUT ALSO YOUR FACE WHEN YOU'RE SCARED OR IN PAIN.
I WANT TO SEE YOUR LAUGHING FACE... AND YOUR CRYING FACE, TOO.
AND THEN...
I WANT TO SEE ALL SORTS OF FACES COMING FROM YOU.
BUT I WANT THAT TO CHANGE.

THAT MAN IS NO LONGER HUMAN. HE IS A WEAPON.
HE MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO ROAM FREELY.
...
!?
PREMIER IS D. NGEROUS.
THE PRESIDENT WILL GRANT YOU AUTHORITY TO DO SO.
AS A NICOLE RESEARCHER, I ADVISE YOU TO PROMPTLY RECOVER PREMIER AND PLACE HIM UNDER MILITARY CONTROL.
I WANT TO CAPTURE HIM BEFORE THE MILITARY DOES.
HE CAN'T BE FAR FROM YOU RIGHT NOW.
DON'T WORRY, HE HASN'T BEEN CAUGHT YET.
IT APPEARS THAT THE SPECIAL FORCES HAVE MADE DIRECT CONTACT WITH PREMIER.
THE ILLEGAL BATTLE HAS BEEN CANCELLED THE RABBIT DIDN'T MAKE AN APPEARANCE.
EMM...

EXCUSE ME, MA'AM?
...THEY WERE WIPED OUT?
YES, MA'AM.
SO THE MILITARY FAILED AFTER ALL
HMPH FINE.
NO, WE LOST TRACK OF IT
WHAT ABOUT TRACKING THE DECOY? ARE WE GETTING A SIGNAL ON THE COMMUNICATION DEVICE?


CHUNK
CHUNK
TAP

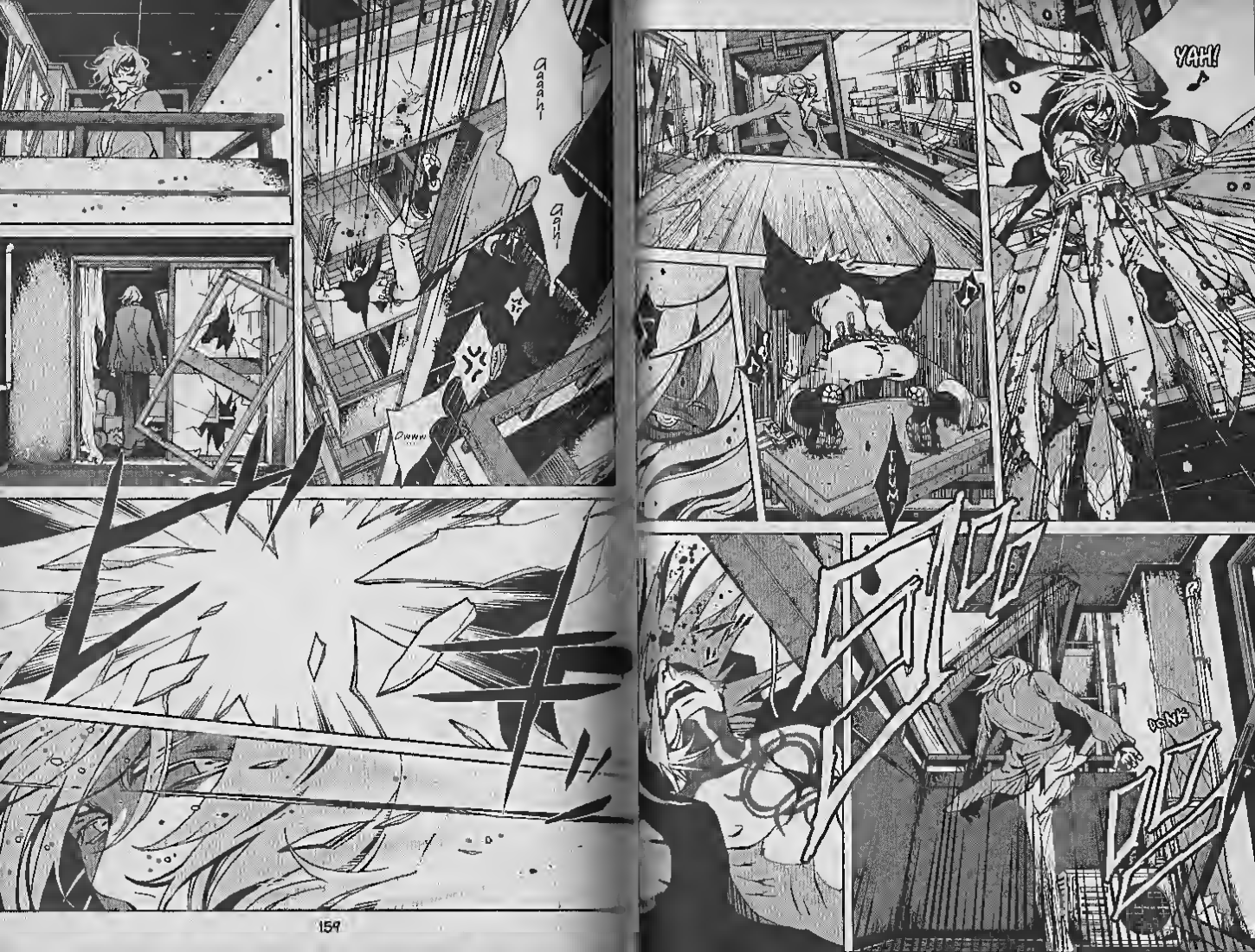

BEFORE THAT HAPPENS, I'LL COME TO TOSHIMA MYSELF.
AFTER THIS LATEST FAILURE, THEY'RE SURE TO SEND MORE TROOPS
THE MILITARY IS FINALLY STARTING TO FIGURE OUT WHAT THEY'RE DEALING WITH
BUT EMMA ...

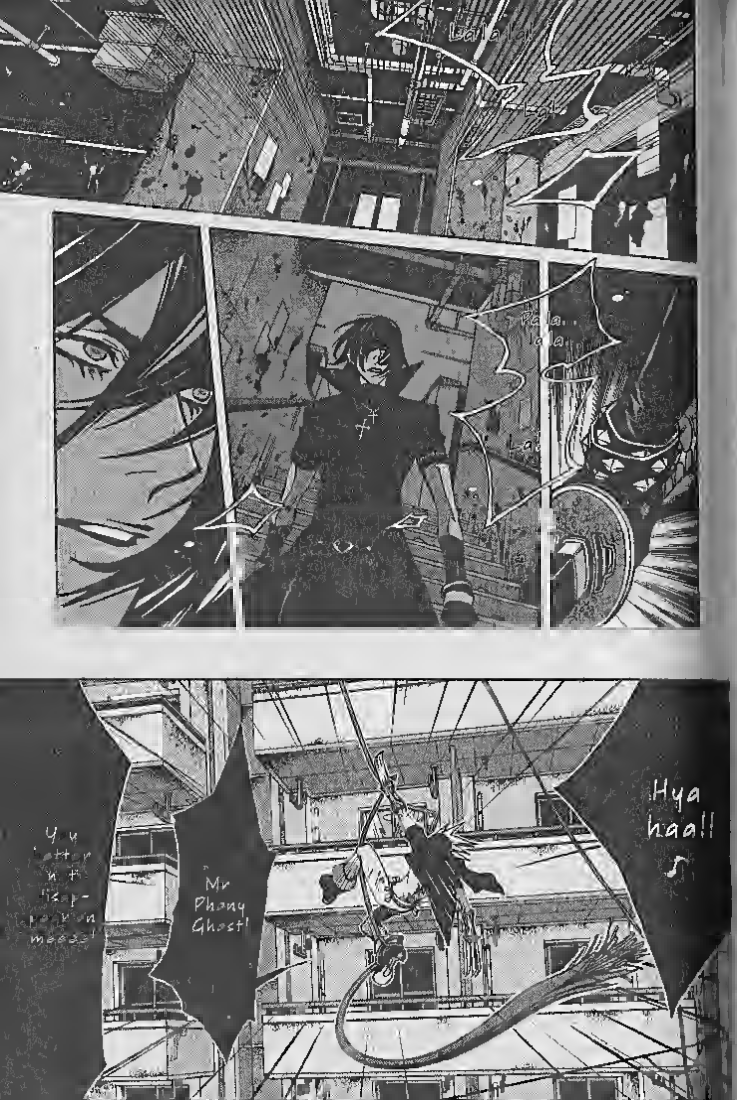

WAIT! RIGHT NOW TOSHIMA IS—
EMMA?!
I'LL CONTACT YOU LATER.

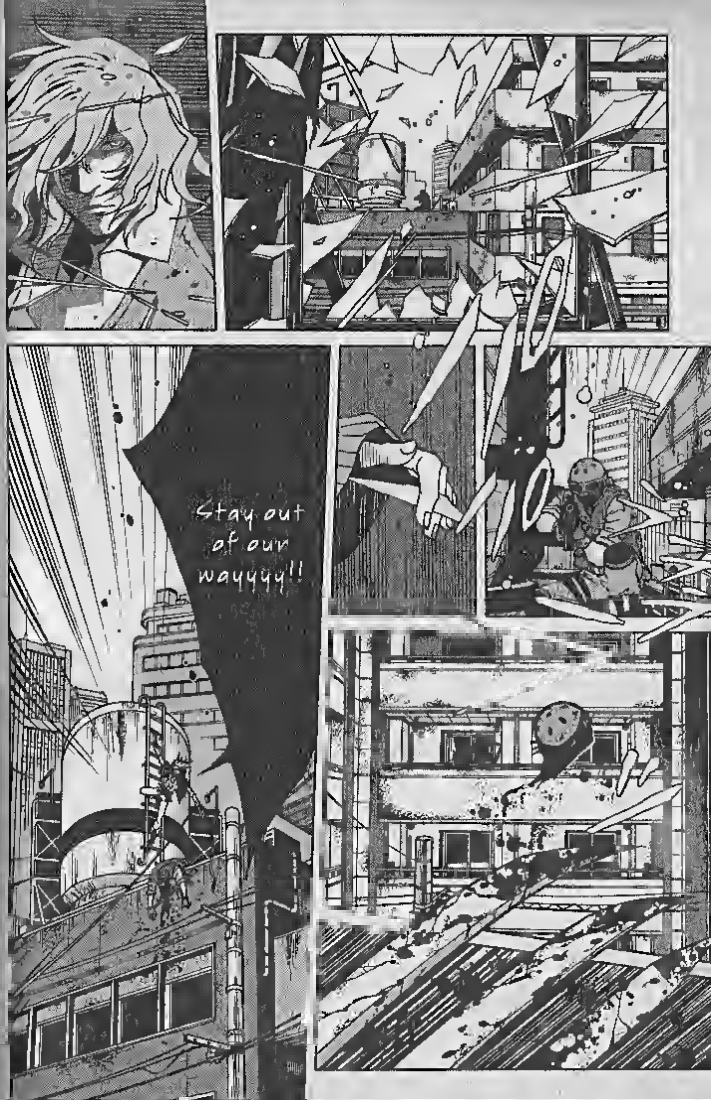
WHY? THERE'S NO NEED FOR THAT!
YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!

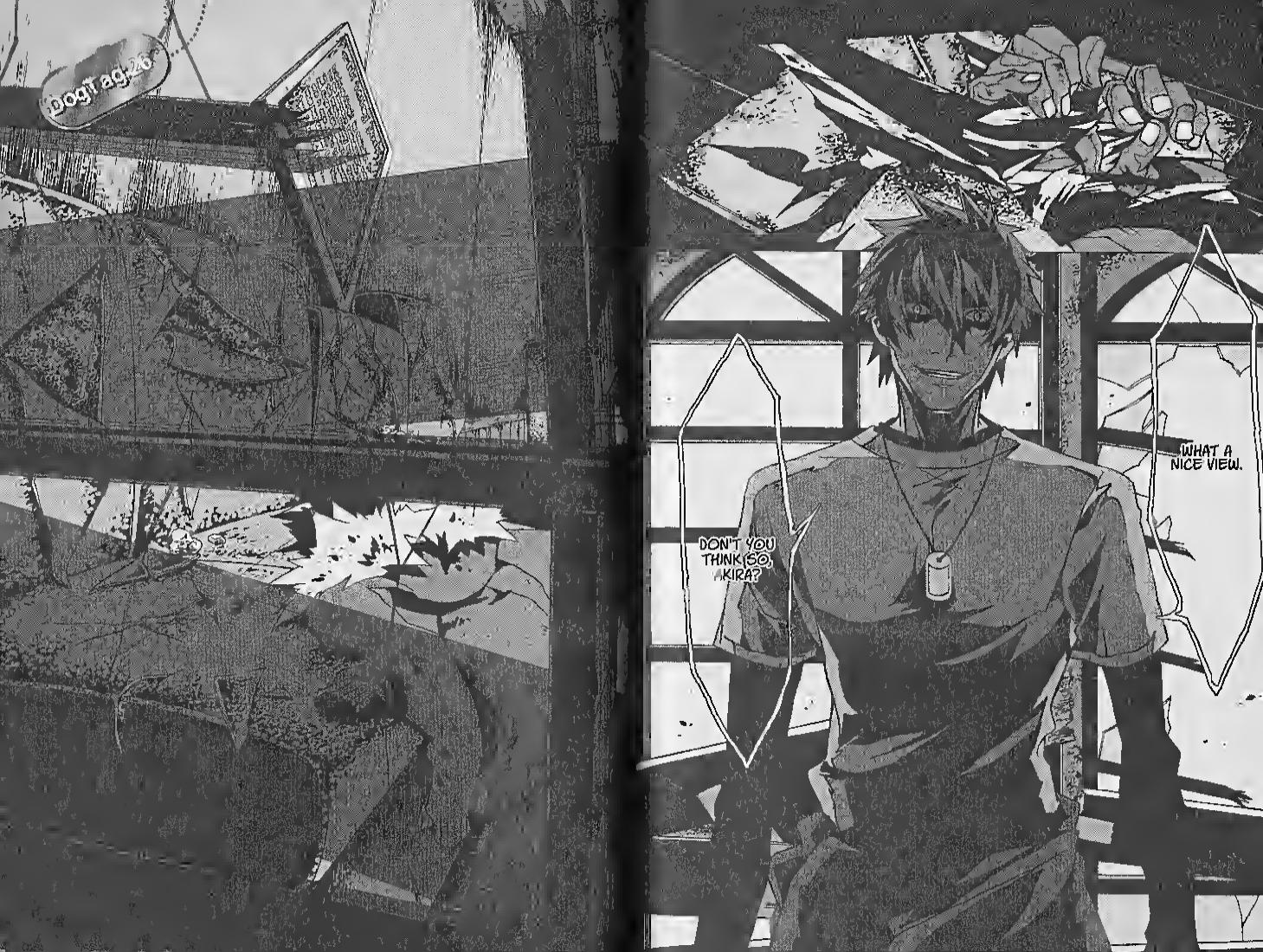
DEMIER-
...OR SHOULD I SAY..

NANO.


Aaaah!
Aah!
Uuuh!
YAH!
TUM
BAM!


Mr Phony Ghost!
Hya haa!!


Stay out of our wayyyy!!


Dog Tag 26
WHAT A NICE VIEW.
DON'T YOU THINK SO, AKIRA?

STOP IT...
JINGLE
リャーン

YOU ARE A MURDERER NOW, AREN'T YOU?
HA HA HA...HOW COULD I FORGET?
THE IGURA IS MURDER, AFTER ALL, ISN'T IT?
BUT Y'KNOW...
THINGS AREN'T LIKE THEY USED TO BE, AKIRA.
I'M STRONGER THAN YOU NOW.
NOW YOU'RE THE WEAK ONE.

THIS IS NO GOOD, AKIRA. NO GOOD AT ALL
SNICKER
C'MON, AKIRA. IS THAT IT?
THIS IS REALLY ALL THE TAGS YOU COULD GET?
JUST EIGHT JUNK TAGS. HOW WEAK WAS YOUR COMPETITION?
GIM-ME A BREAK!
OH..
KEI--
THAT'S RIGHT...
WAM
YOU DON'T WANNA END UP IN JAIL AGAIN, DO YOU? YOU DON'T WANNA BE FRAMED FOR MURDER!

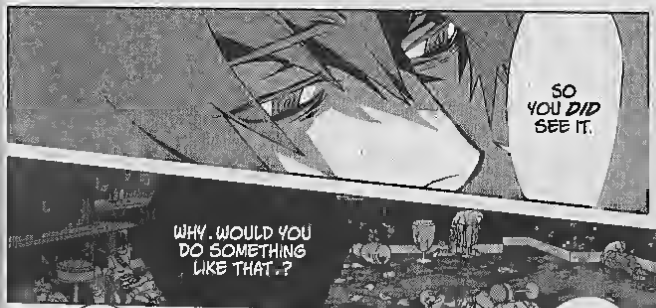
YOU DIDN'T THINK I WAS CAPABLE OF DOING SOMETHING LIKE THAT, DID YOU?
I DID IT BECAUSE I WANTED TO. THAT'S ALL!
KEISUKE...
YOU'RE SO CUTE, AKIR...
YOU'RE REALLY SURPRISED, HUH?

HUH? THE BLASTER...? TOMORROW?
YOU THOUGHT I WAS TOO WEAK TO DO THAT SORT OF THING.
THAT'S WHAT THE LOOK ON YOUR FACE IS SAYING.

THE BAR...?!

I LIKE TO CALL IT MY "GRAND ENTRANCE."
I DID THAT...ALL OF IT.

AT THE BAR?
DID YOU SEE WHAT HAPPENED, AKIRA?


SO YOU DID SEE IT.
WHY. WOULD YOU DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT.?

I JUST TOLD YOU... IT WAS MY GRAND ENTRANCE.
THERE'S NO "WHY."
"WHY" YOU ASK?

DO YOU, AKIRA?
YOU DON'T CARE AT ALL.

"GOOD FOR YOU"

EVEN WHEN I GOT A GIRL-FRIEND, ALL YOU SAID WAS...
WHERE I GO... WHO I TALK TO...
THAT'S RIGHT. YOU COULDN'T CARE LESS ABOUT ME.

AKIRAAAA!
YOU DOING SOME-THING TOMOR-ROW?

I-I JUST NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D EVER INVITE ME, SO..

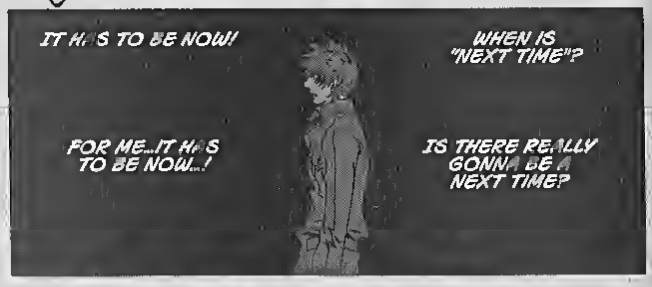
A-ACTUALLY, I ALREADY HAD PLANS.
S-SORRY.

IT DOESN'T MATTER. IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT THAT YOU'RE BUSY.
I'M REALLY SORRY
IT'S OKAY.
BUT NOW THAT YOU ACTUALLY DID, I.

MUST HAVE A DATE WITH HIS GIRL-FRIEND. SAW HIM WALKING WITH A GIRL THE OTHER DAY. ♪

YOU GONNA WATCH THE BLOSTER WITH THAT GUY?
NO HE SAID HE HAS STUFF TO DO.

"AKIRA AKIRA AKIRA"...
THAT'S ALL I COULD THINK OF.
YOU JUST KEPT ME AROUND FOR THE HELL OF IT, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU REALLY DIDN'T GIVE A SHIT. BUT I WAS DIFFERENT.
HOW CONSIDERATE
"GOOD FOR YOU" THAT'S ALL YOU SAID.



OTHER MATCHES... NEXT TIME.

IT WAS AMAZING.
UNTIL THEIR BLOOD SPLATTERED ALL OVER THE ASPHALT
UNTIL THEIR FLESH BURST OPEN
YOU'D HIT THEM UNTIL THEY SCREAMED AND CRIED
YOU REALLY WERE ENJOYING YOURSELF, WEREN'T YOU?
THE ONE WHO FEELS JOY WHENEVER YOU KILL
I KNOW YOU DID I KNOW THE PERSON HIDING INSIDE YOU...
JUST ADMIT IT!
THAT'S NOT TRUE!!
YOU'RE WRONG...
BE HONEST. YOU LOVED IT, DIDN'T YOU?
EVERYONE'S LIKE THAT.
GRAB

DO YOU THINK I'M CRAZY?
HEY.
I WAS WATCHING THE WHOLE TIME
THEN WHAT DO YOU CALL "NORMAL," HUH?
SOMEONE LIKE YOU, WHO GETS A KICK OUT OF BEATING PEOPLE UP?

IT'S BEATING SO FAST.
I CAN FEEL IT INSIDE YOU.
UNDERNEATH YOUR SKIN WHERE YOUR WARM BLOOD IS FLOWING..
CAN YOU FEEL IT, AKIRA?

THEY JUST DON'T NOTICE THEM, THAT'S ALL.
EVERY-ONE HAS IT THAT OTHER PERSON INSIDE THEM
THEY SHOULD JUST BE HONEST
THEY ALL PRETEND TO BE RATIONAL. THEY WON'T ADMIT TO THE TRUTH.
CAN'T YOU HEAR THEM CALLING OUT TO YOU?
...IS SOMEONE WHO LOVES TO SEE BLOOD... WHO WANTS TO HURT OTHERS... WHO WANTS TO BE HURT.
INSIDE OF YOU...

STOP IT!!
KEISUKE!!!
IF I COVER MYSELF IN YOUR BLOOD, WILL I FEEL EVEN WARMER...?
WHAT D'YOU THINK, AKIRA...?

FAUGHH!!
SO WARM...
I NEVER KNEW.
I NEVER REALIZED YOU WERE SO WARM, AKIRA.
GAHH!!

SHUT UP!
HOW DO YOU LIKE IT NOW THAT YOU'RE THE WEAK ONE, HUH?!
...LIKE I CARE...?
PRETEND!
DON'T PRETEND LIKE YOU CARE!
DON'T ACT LIKE YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT ME!
GRK
GRK
WHAT DID I...
...EVER DO TO YOU...?
YOU NEVER CARED ABOUT ME AT ALL!
NOTHING! NOTHING AT ALL!
WHAT DID YOU DO?

AH
...GGH!
HUH?
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?
YOU STILL THINK YOU CAN ORDER ME AROUND?
SHUT UP!
SHUT UP SHUT UP...
SHUT UP!
IT'S NOT THAT, MY BLOOD IS--
THAT VOICE OF YOURS IS MAKING ME SICK!

IT WAS PRETTY EASY, REALLY.
I COLLECTED ALL THESE TAGS
I BECAME THIS WAY FOR YOU, AKIRA.
NOW I'VE BECOME STRONG. I'M NOT HELPLESS ANYMORE
THEY'RE NOT SO EASY TO TRACK DOWN
BUT IT SEEMS THAT THE STRONG GUYS ARE THE ONES WITH ALL THE FACE TAGS.
I DON'T REALLY CARE ABOUT FACE TAGS, OR EVEN IL RE... BUT YOU DO, DON'T YOU, AKIRA?
THAT'S FINE. I'LL KILL IL RE, TOO
YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID SOMETHING
AFTER ALL, YOU NEVER SMILED AT ME.
I WAS AFRAID YOU THOUGHT I WAS A NUISANCE.
I WAS ALWAYS FOLLOWING AFTER YOU. EVEN IF YOU PUT UP WITH ME, YOU ALWAYS SEEMED LIKE YOU WERE IN A BAD MOOD.
IT MADE ME INSECURE.
IT'S ALWAYS BEEN THIS WAY... EVER SINCE WE WERE KIDS.
BECAUSE IT'S THE TRUTH, ISN'T IT?!
WHY... WOULD YOU THINK THAT?
BUT THAT SIDE OF ME IS GONE NOW
YOU WERE ALWAYS PROTECTING ME, AND THE ONLY THING I COULD DO WAS RUN! I WAS ALWAYS BEING REMINDED OF HOW WEAK I WAS
IT WAS PATHETIC!
YOU SAID THERE WAS NO WAY I COULD WIN THAT I SHOULD JUST RUN! THAT RUNNING WAS ALL I WAS GOOD FOR!
YOU NEVER THOUGHT I COULD MAKE IT IN THE IGURA, EITHER!

AKIRA...YOU'RE LEAVING THE HOUSE?
BUT...
YOU'RE GONNA LIVE ALONE?
YOU'RE GONNA QUIT THE TRAINING SCHOOL, TOO?
NO, NEVER MIND.
I'LL TRY TO BRING YOU SOME FOOD TO GET BY ON, OKAY?
KEISUKE...!

IT'S ALL RIGHT, YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY.
YOU'RE WEAK, SO YOU CAN JUST STAY HERE AND WAIT.
I'LL DO IT ALL FOR YOU

...I'LL BE SURE TO TORTURE YOU NICE AND SLOW BEFORE I LET YOU DIE
YOU SHOULD HAVE JUST TOLD ME...
AND WHEN IT'S YOUR TURN...

..YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO DO IT LIKE THIS..
IF YOU HAD SOMETHING YOU WANTED TO TELL ME...

"Violent emotions... penetrating, blunt."

谷狗の血

KEISUKE...

LET ME KNOW WHERE YOUR NEW PLACE IS, AKIRA.

Staff thanx

YOSHINO KEIICHI, CK*MOTO KAZUHIRO, YAMANE MASAHIKO, UEDA AYUMI, KIRAKI SHIZUKA, T. K. SE YUKIKO, FUJIWARA TAKESHI, TAKEUCHI TOEN, HASEGAWA YUKO

Editor thanx

KIMURA-SAMA, B'S LOG EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

SP THANX MY BOOKSTORE SD BRANCH, TORA NO ANA

I think I hit a soft spot.
Oh, oops.
We've been hanging out for over ten years now, but I still can't figure him out sometimes.
When I was little they said it was cute that I barked like a little dog...

THANX

Nitro+CHiRAL

TORABUCHI-SAMA, CHIRAL-KUN FUCHII-SAMA, TATANAKANA-SAMA

and You.